

Archie
ADVENTURE
SERIES

NO.60 US \$1.75
JULY CAN \$1.85

SONIC

THE HEDGEHOG



NO SIGNS OF IXIS NAUGUS ANYWHERE, SONIC. FACE IT—HIS TRAIL'S STARTING TO RUN COLD!

NOT A CHANCE! WE'VE BEEN SEARCHING FOREVER—WE MUST BE GETTING WARMER...!

IN FACT, SCALDING MIGHT BE A BETTER CHOICE OF WORDS!

WHEW! WHO TURNED UP THE HEAT?!?

Hmm... IT IS UNSEASONABLY HOT, ISN'T IT? I WOULDN'T SWEAT IT...

...WEATHER LIKE THIS WON'T LAST... LONG?

HOLY MACKEREL!

WHA—?! AM I SEEING THINGS? THE ENTIRE MOUNTAIN IS A RAGING INFERNO!

SONIC & TAILS

ARSENAL OF THE IRONKING

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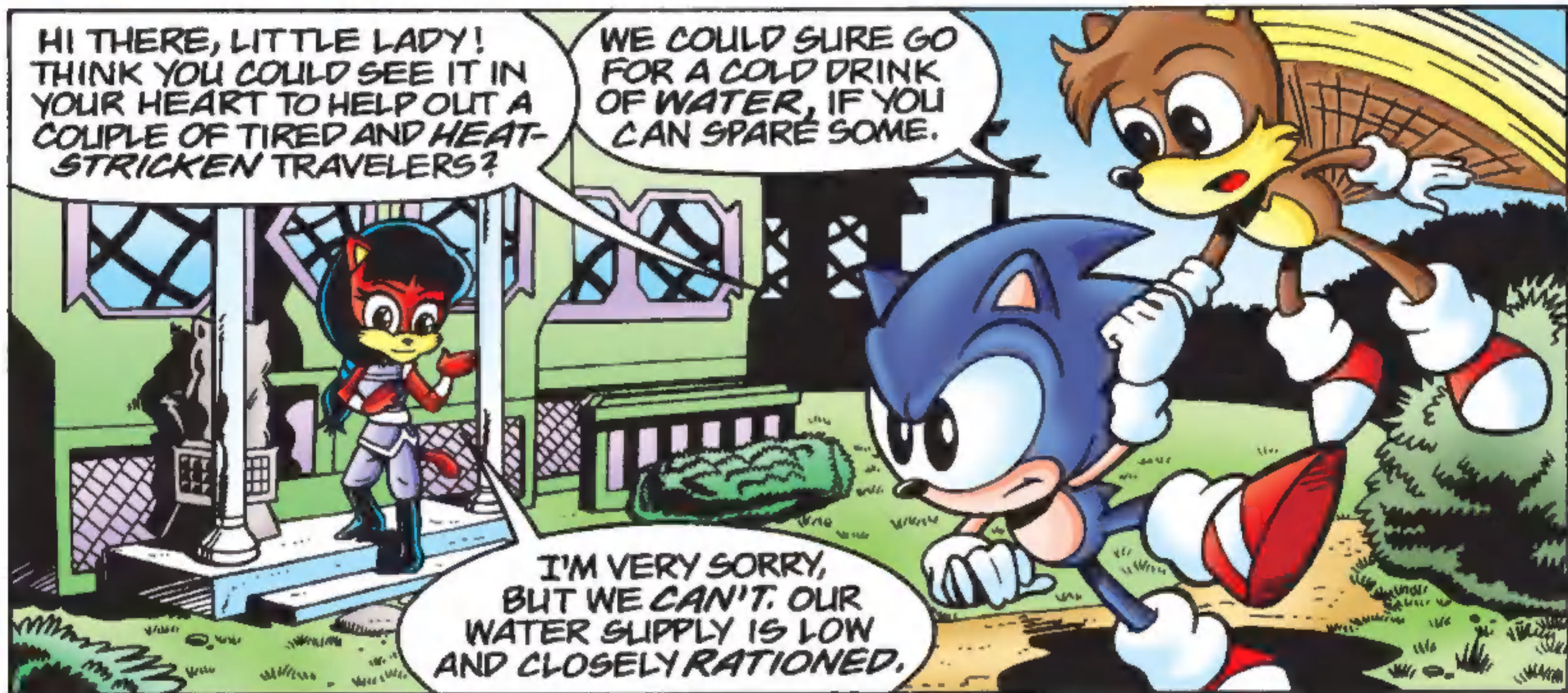
BUT SONIC, THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! A FIRE LIKE THAT WOULD SET THE WHOLE FOREST ABLAZE! MAYBE OUR EYES ARE PLAYING TRICKS ON US.

GET A GRIP, TAILS-- CAN'T YOU FEEL THE HEAT? >HUFF!< I'M GONNA PASS OUT IF WE DON'T GET OUTTA HERE AND FAST!



HEY, LOOK! WE'RE IN LUCK-- A VILLAGE AT THE BASE OF THE MOUNTAIN!

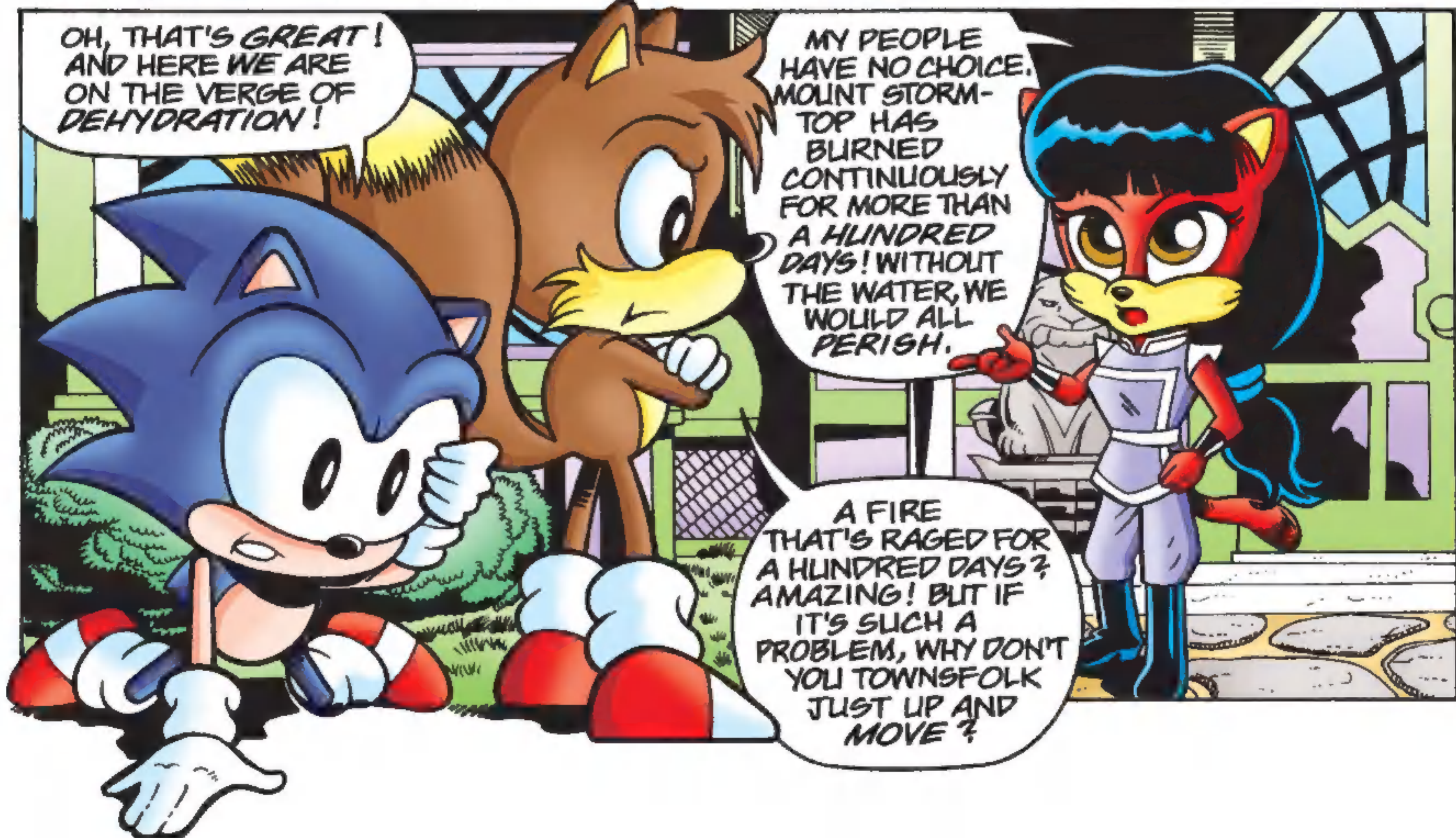
HOW COULD ANYONE STAND TO LIVE SO CLOSE TO THAT GIANT BONFIRE?



HI THERE, LITTLE LADY! THINK YOU COULD SEE IT IN YOUR HEART TO HELP OUT A COUPLE OF TIRED AND HEAT-STRICKEN TRAVELERS?

WE COULD SURE GO FOR A COLD DRINK OF WATER, IF YOU CAN SPARE SOME.

I'M VERY SORRY, BUT WE CAN'T. OUR WATER SUPPLY IS LOW AND CLOSELY RATIONED.



OH, THAT'S GREAT! AND HERE WE ARE ON THE VERGE OF DEHYDRATION!

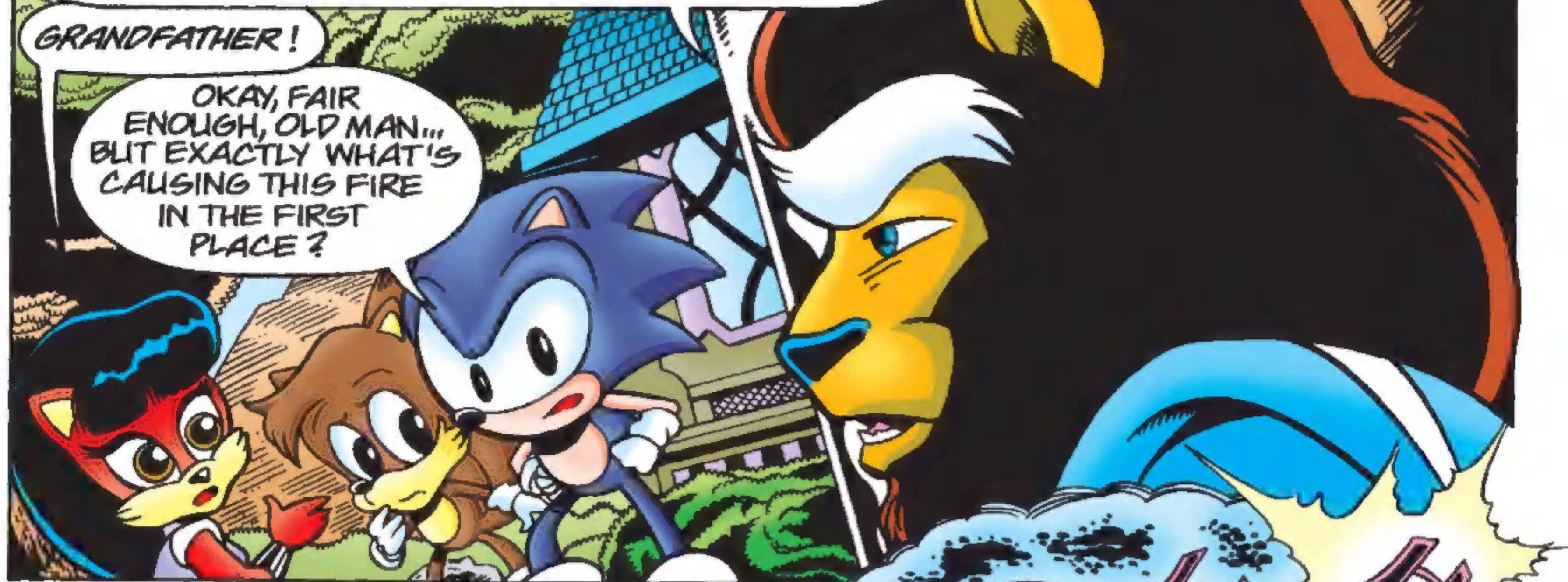
MY PEOPLE HAVE NO CHOICE. MOUNT STORM-TOP HAS BURNED CONTINUOUSLY FOR MORE THAN A HUNDRED DAYS! WITHOUT THE WATER, WE WOULD ALL PERISH.

A FIRE THAT'S RAGED FOR A HUNDRED DAYS? AMAZING! BUT IF IT'S SUCH A PROBLEM, WHY DON'T YOU TOWNSFOLK JUST UP AND MOVE?

MOVE? HEH! EASIER SAID THAN DONE, STRANGER! I AM LI YUEN--LI MOON AND I AND OUR FAMILY HAVE LIVED HERE ALL OUR LIVES. WOULD YOU BE SO QUICK TO LEAVE THE PLACE YOU'VE ALWAYS CALLED HOME?

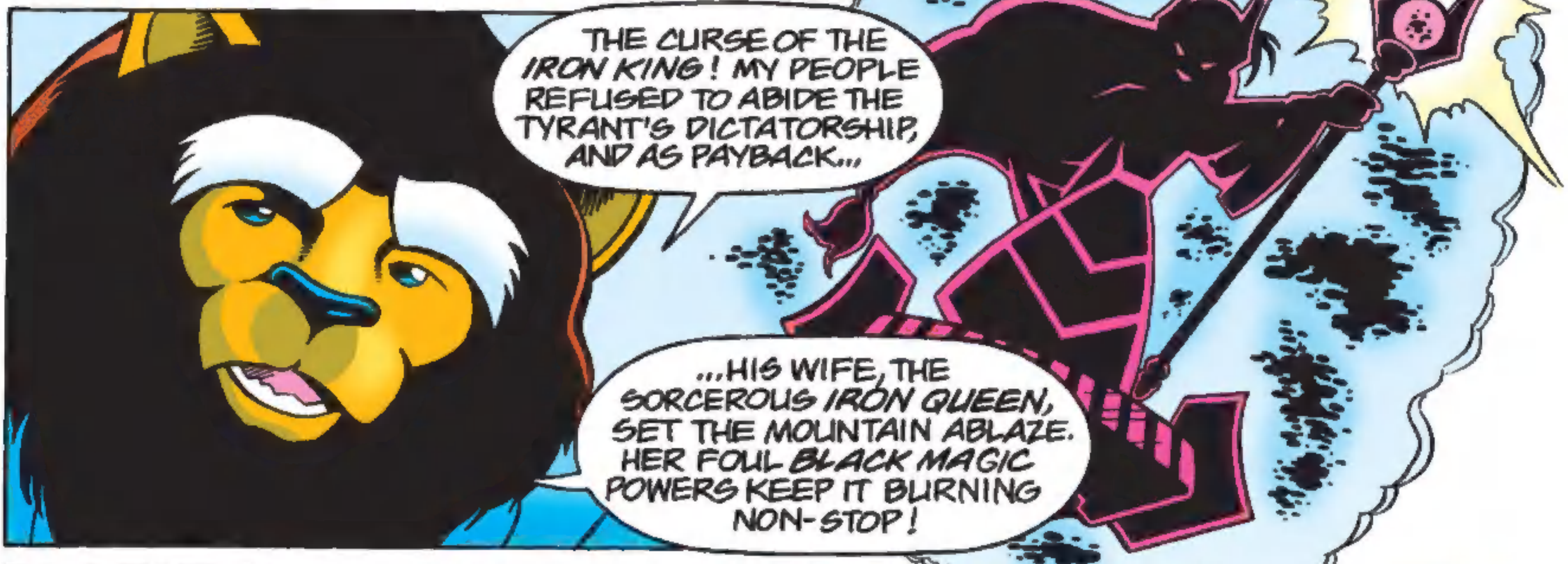
GRANDFATHER!

OKAY, FAIR ENOUGH, OLD MAN... BUT EXACTLY WHAT'S CAUSING THIS FIRE IN THE FIRST PLACE?



THE CURSE OF THE IRON KING! MY PEOPLE REFUSED TO ABIDE THE TYRANT'S DICTATORSHIP, AND AS PAYBACK...

...HIS WIFE, THE SORCEROUS IRON QUEEN, SET THE MOUNTAIN ABLAZE. HER FOUL BLACK MAGIC POWERS KEEP IT BURNING NON-STOP!



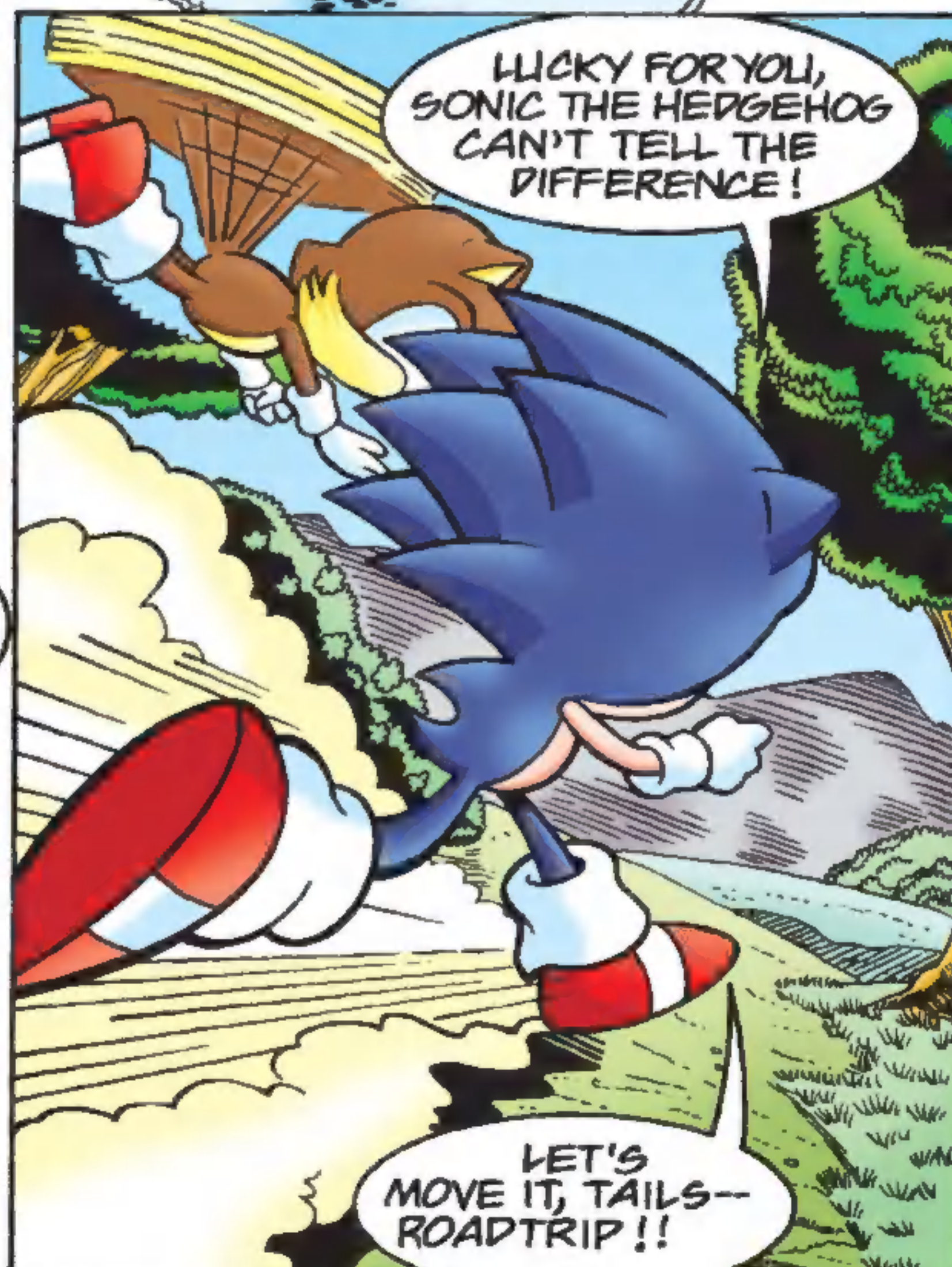
THE ONLY THING THAT CAN PUT OUT THE FIRE IS THE ENCHANTED FAN OF FEN XING. UNFORTUNATELY, THE IRON KING KEEPS IT LOCKED AWAY IN HIS ARSENAL...

BINGO! ALL YOU GUYS NEED IS SOMEONE BRAVE ENOUGH TO GO GET IT!



CHALLENGING THE IRON KING IN HIS OWN FORTRESS ISN'T BRAVE-- IT'S STUPID!

LUCKY FOR YOU, SONIC THE HEDGEHOG CAN'T TELL THE DIFFERENCE!



LET'S MOVE IT, TAILS-- ROADTRIP!!

M EANWHILE, AT THE IRON FORTRESS...



Heeheeheehee!
I SPY WITH MY LITTLE EYE... A PAIR OF UNEXPECTED GUESTS.

MY!
DON'T THEY LOOK DETERMINED! HOW ADORABLE.

DO YOU SUPPOSE THE LITTLE DICKENS MEAN TO AID US IN OUR PURSUITS?

DON'T BE FOOLISH! THERE'S NO DOUBT THESE INTERLOPERS ARE UP TO MISCHIEF!
MISCHIEF THAT COULD PROVE DEADLY FOR US!

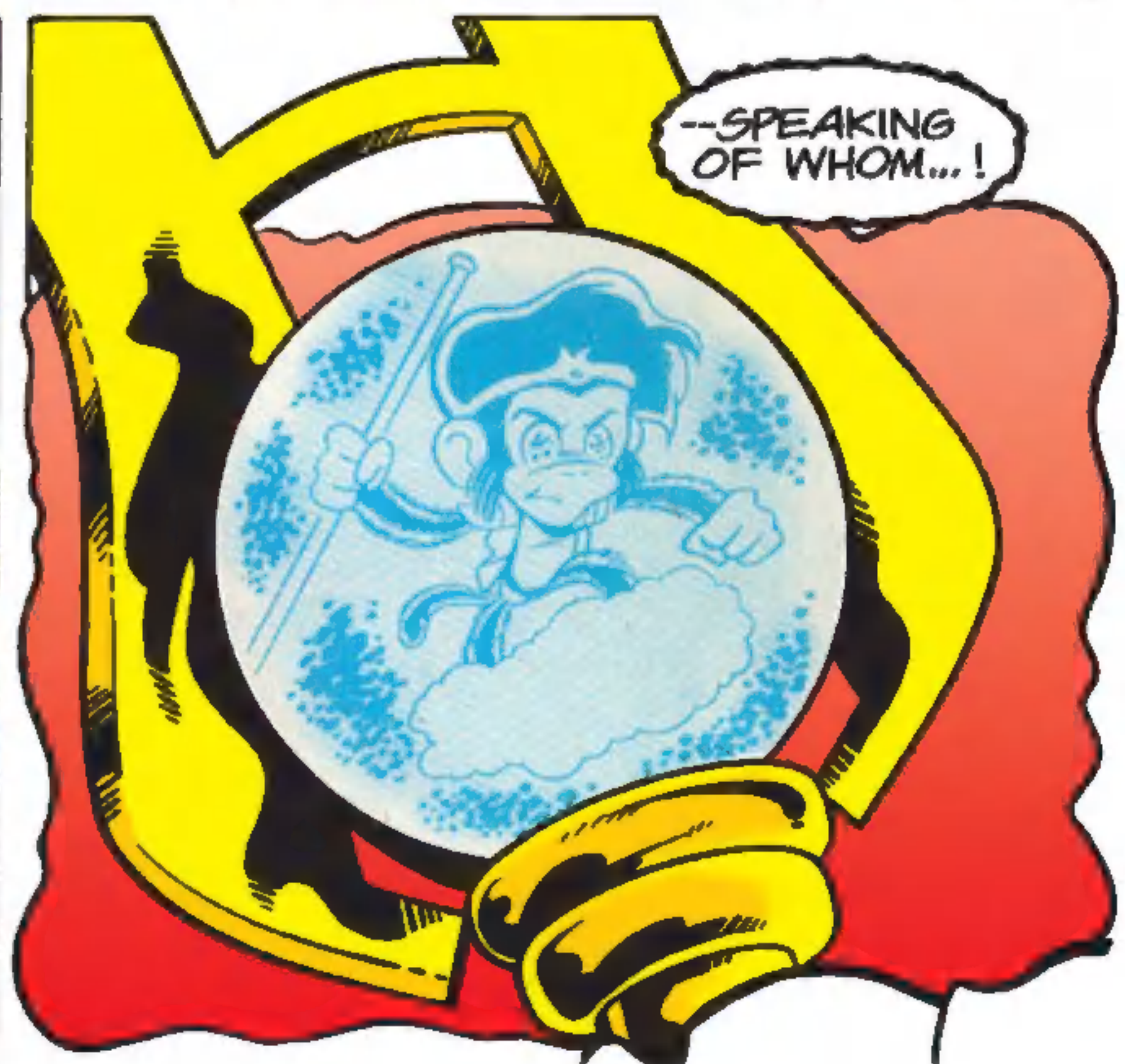


Ee-heeheehee!
SUCH A WOEFUL WORRYWART YOU ARE, MY LOVE!

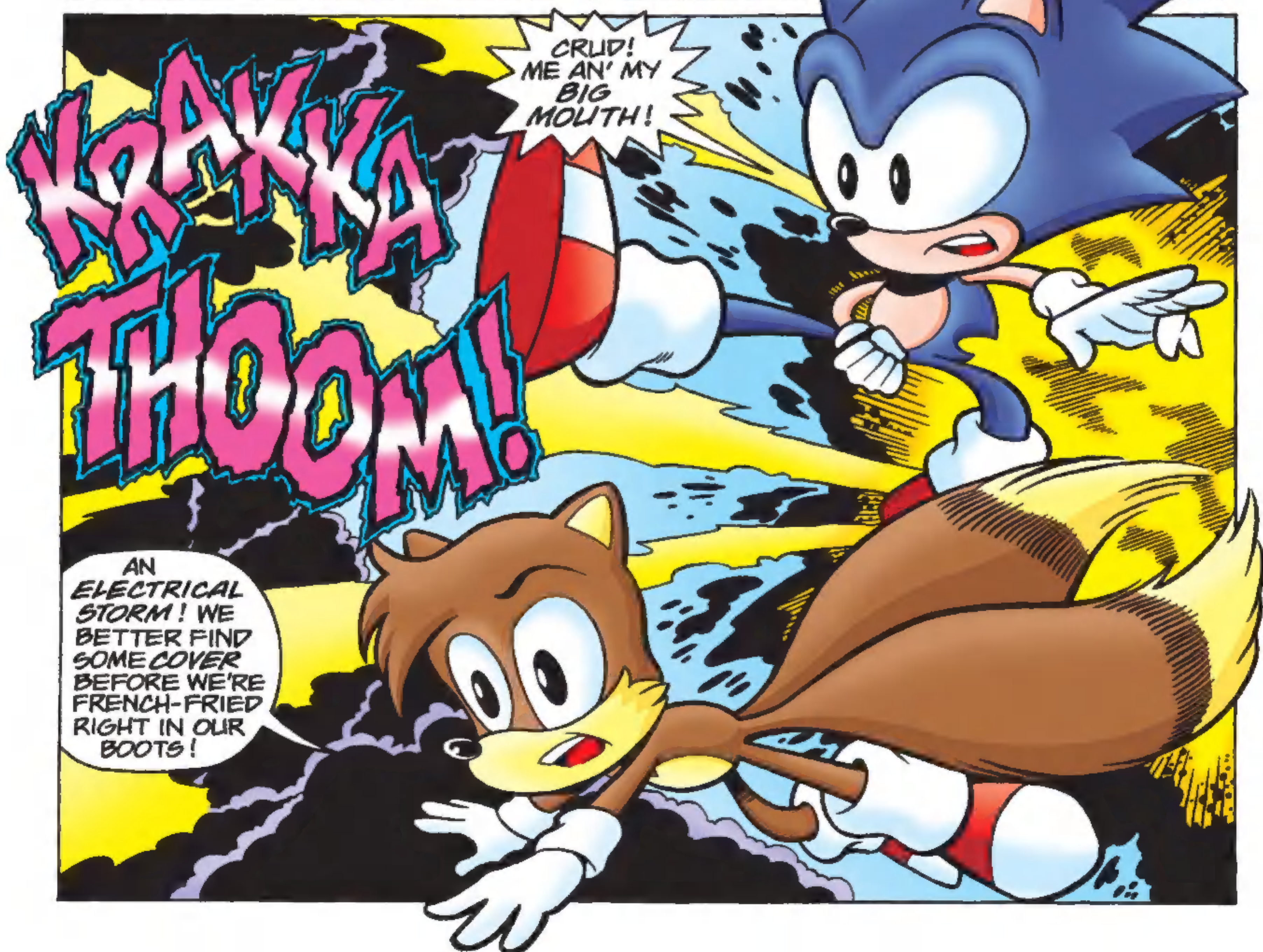
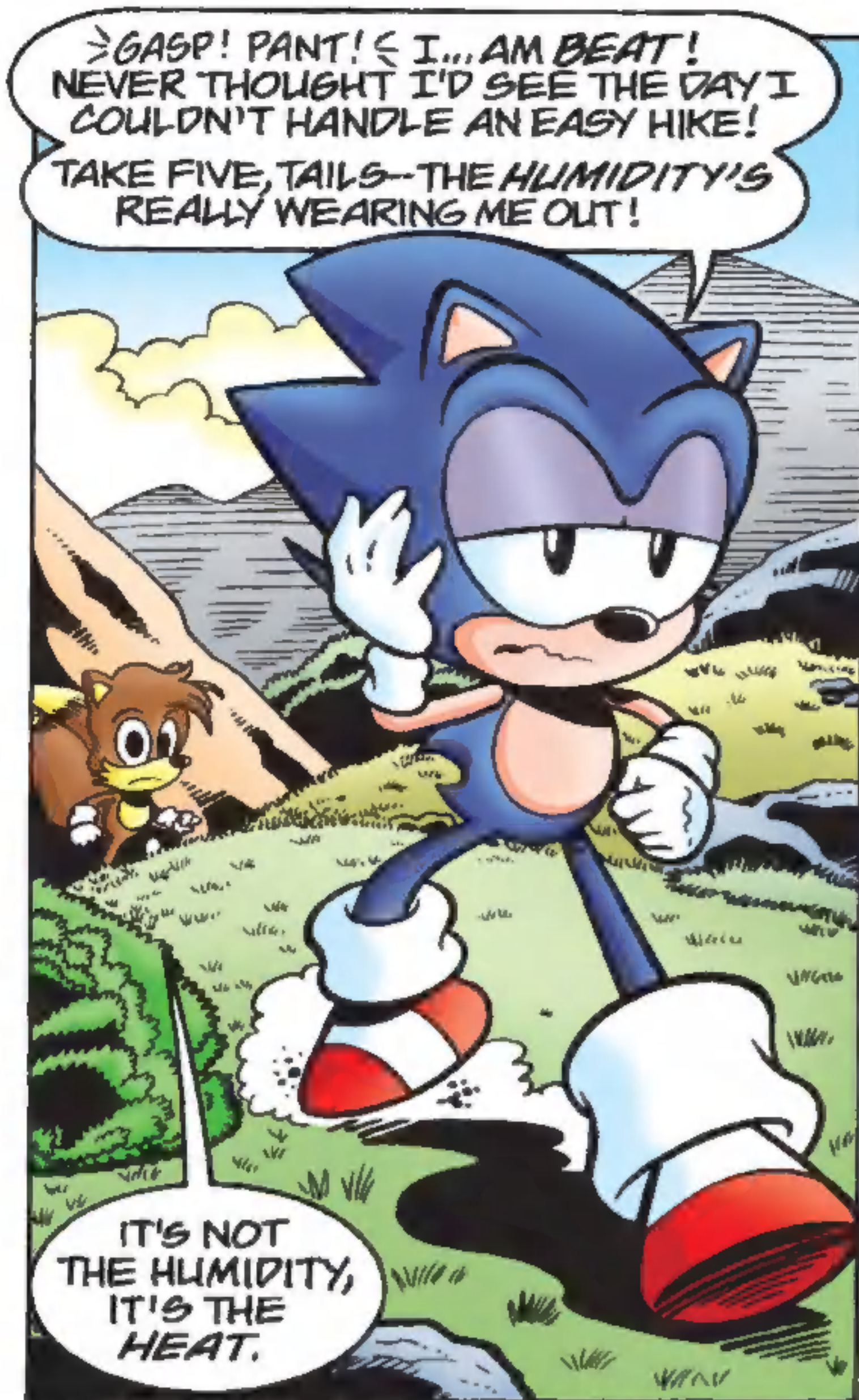


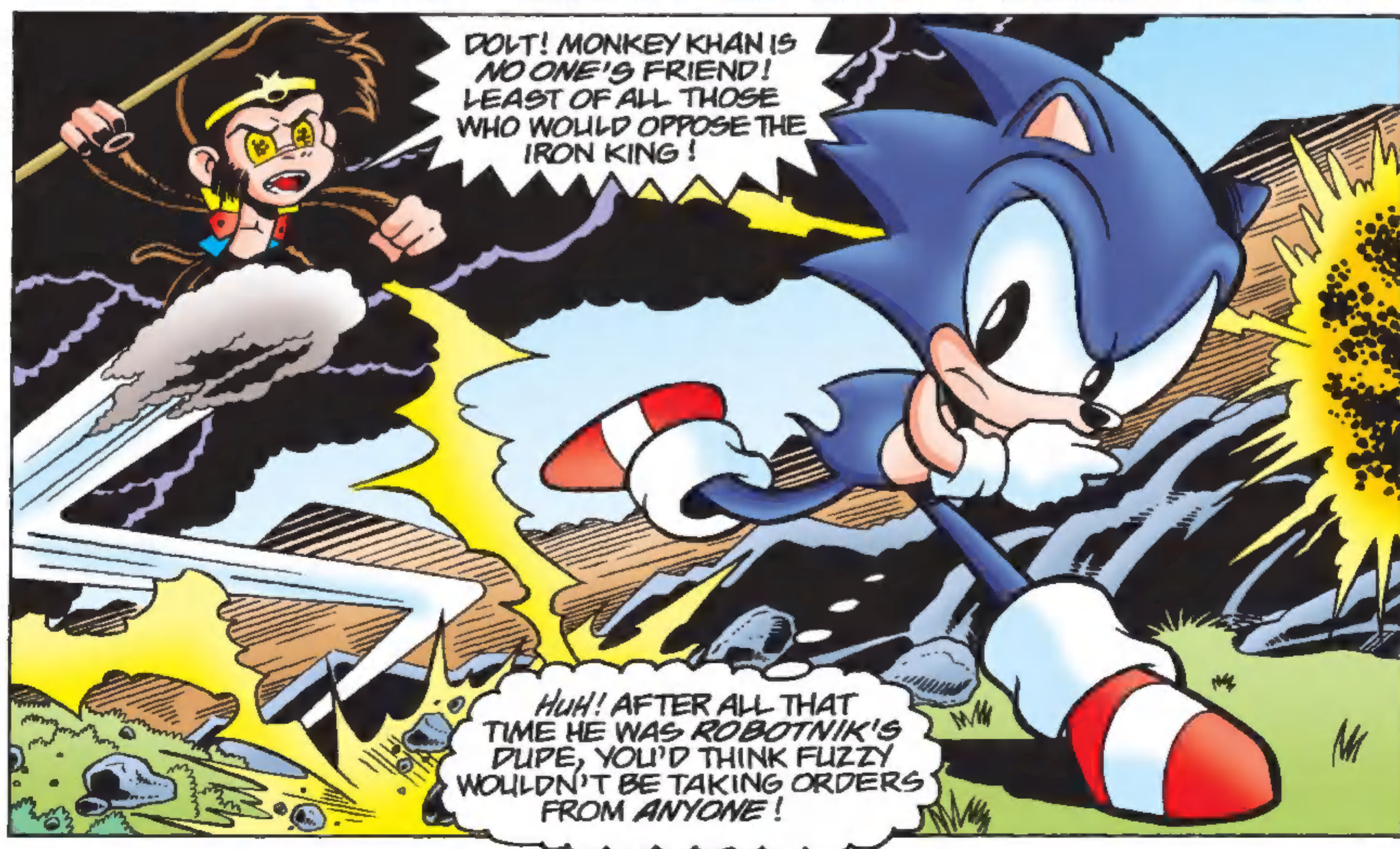
THE SITUATION IS NOT AS DIRE AS YOU MAKE IT OUT.

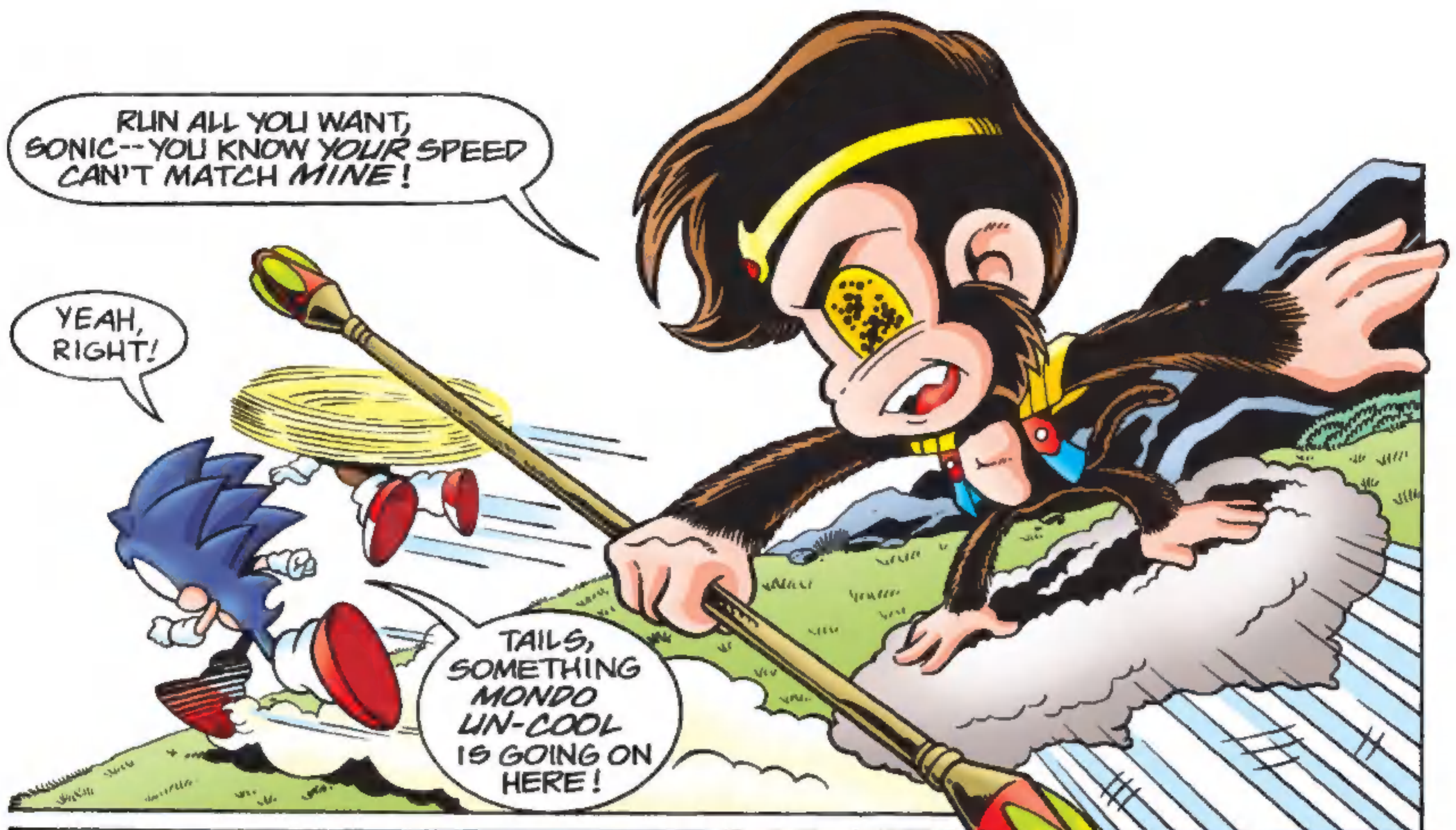
ALL THAT'S CALLED FOR IS A SPOILER TO ADD TO THE MIX--



--SPEAKING OF WHOM...!



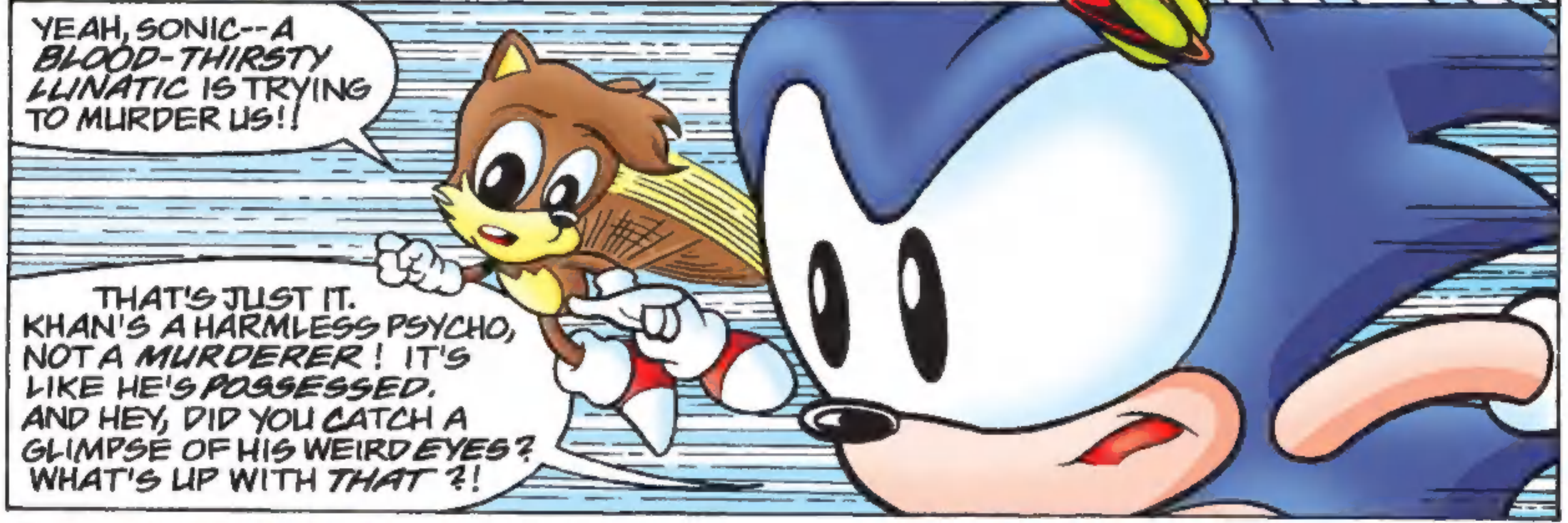




RUN ALL YOU WANT, SONIC-- YOU KNOW YOUR SPEED CAN'T MATCH MINE!

YEAH, RIGHT!

TAILS, SOMETHING MONDO UN-COOL IS GOING ON HERE!



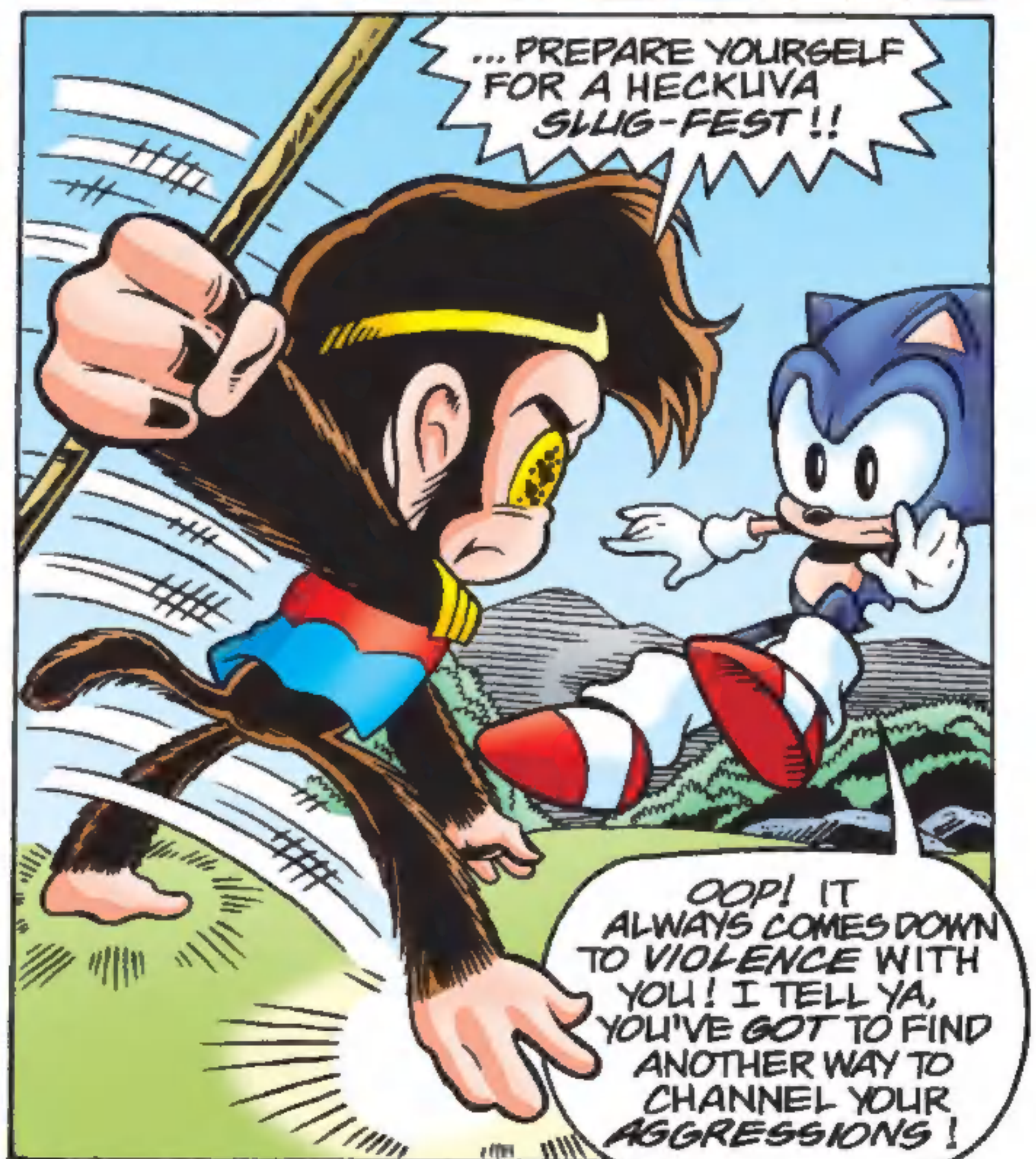
YEAH, SONIC-- A BLOOD-THIRSTY LLINATIC IS TRYING TO MURDER US!!

THAT'S JUST IT. KHAN'S A HARMLESS PSYCHO, NOT A MURDERER! IT'S LIKE HE'S POSSESSED. AND HEY, DID YOU CATCH A GLIMPSE OF HIS WEIRD EYES? WHAT'S UP WITH THAT?!



GRRR!! MONKEY KHAN GROWS TIRED OF THE CHASE!

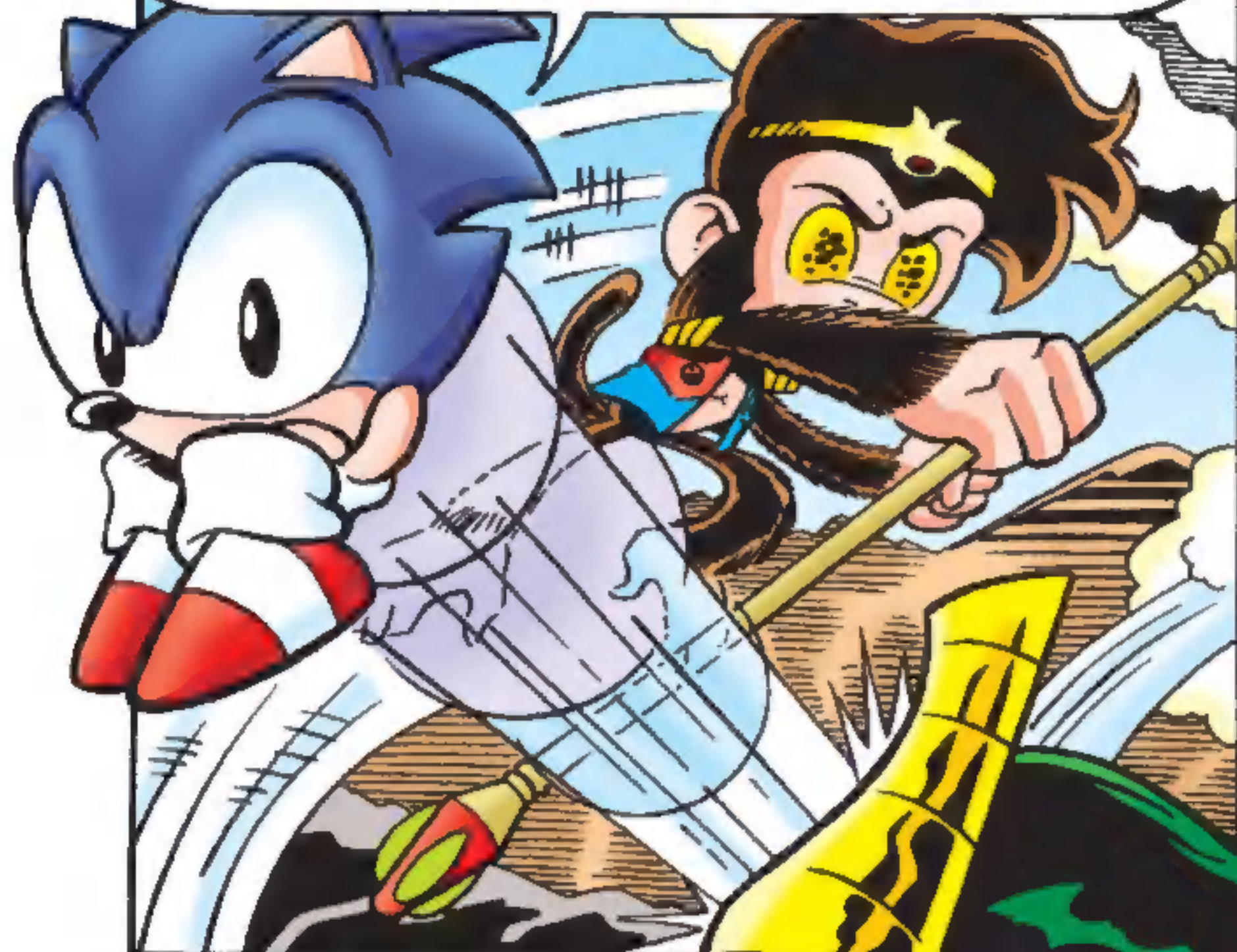
RECESS TIME IS OVER, CRETIN...



... PREPARE YOURSELF FOR A HECKLIVA SLUG-FEST!!

OOP! IT ALWAYS COMES DOWN TO VIOLENCE WITH YOU! I TELL YA, YOU'VE GOT TO FIND ANOTHER WAY TO CHANNEL YOUR AGGRESSIONS!

LIKE THROUGH A HOBBY... WHICH YOU'LL HAVE PLENTY OF TIME FOR ONCE I WHIP YOUR BUTT CLEAR INTO NEXT WEEK!



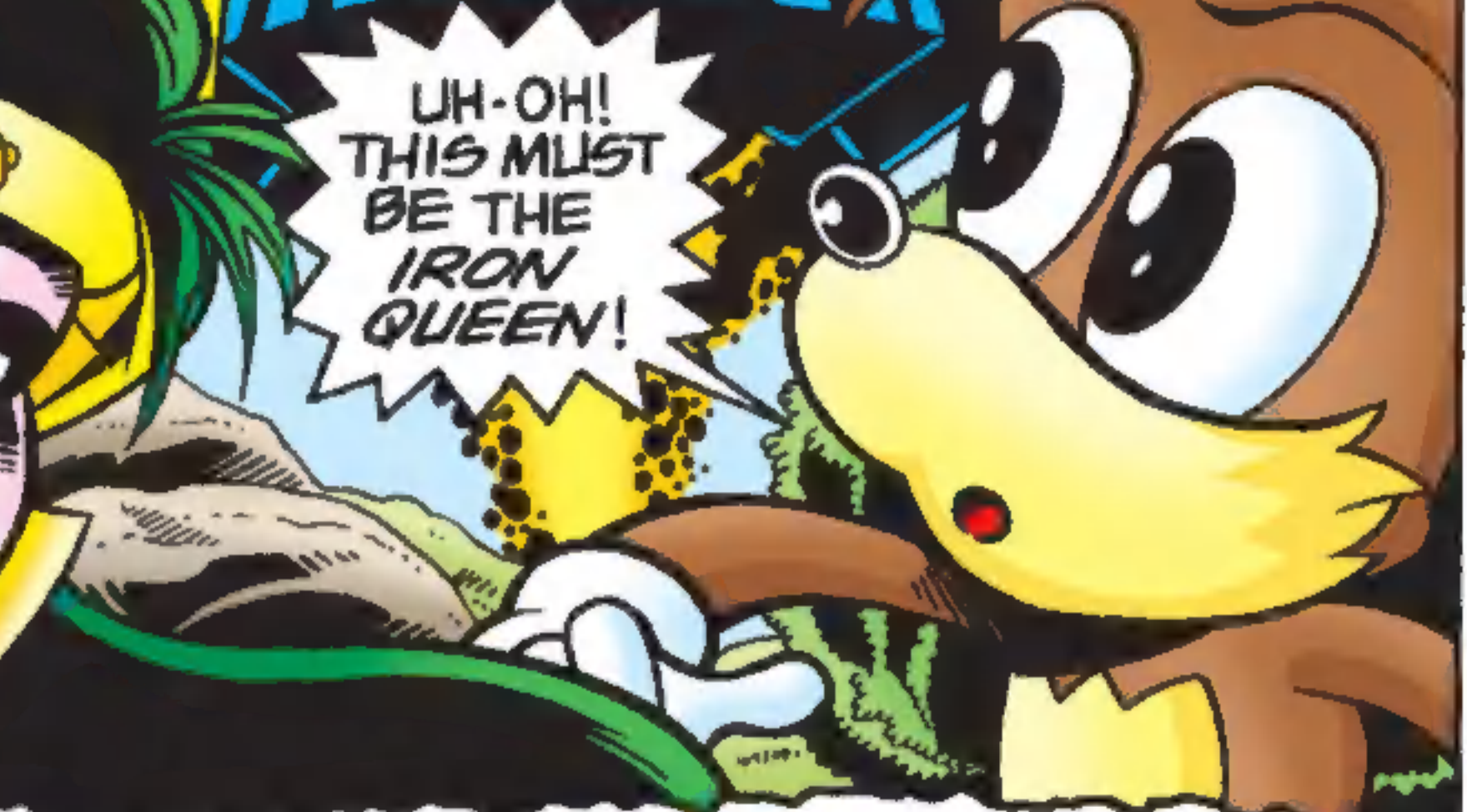
Heeheeheehee! DETERMINED AND AMBITIOUS, AREN'T YOU? I LIKE THAT IN AN ENEMY! PITY THOSE VIRTUES WON'T KEEP MY SIMIAN PAWN FROM MOPPING THE FLOOR WITH YOU!



FIGHTING HIM IS A FUTILE GESTURE, BLUE-BOY!



UH-OH! THIS MUST BE THE IRON QUEEN!

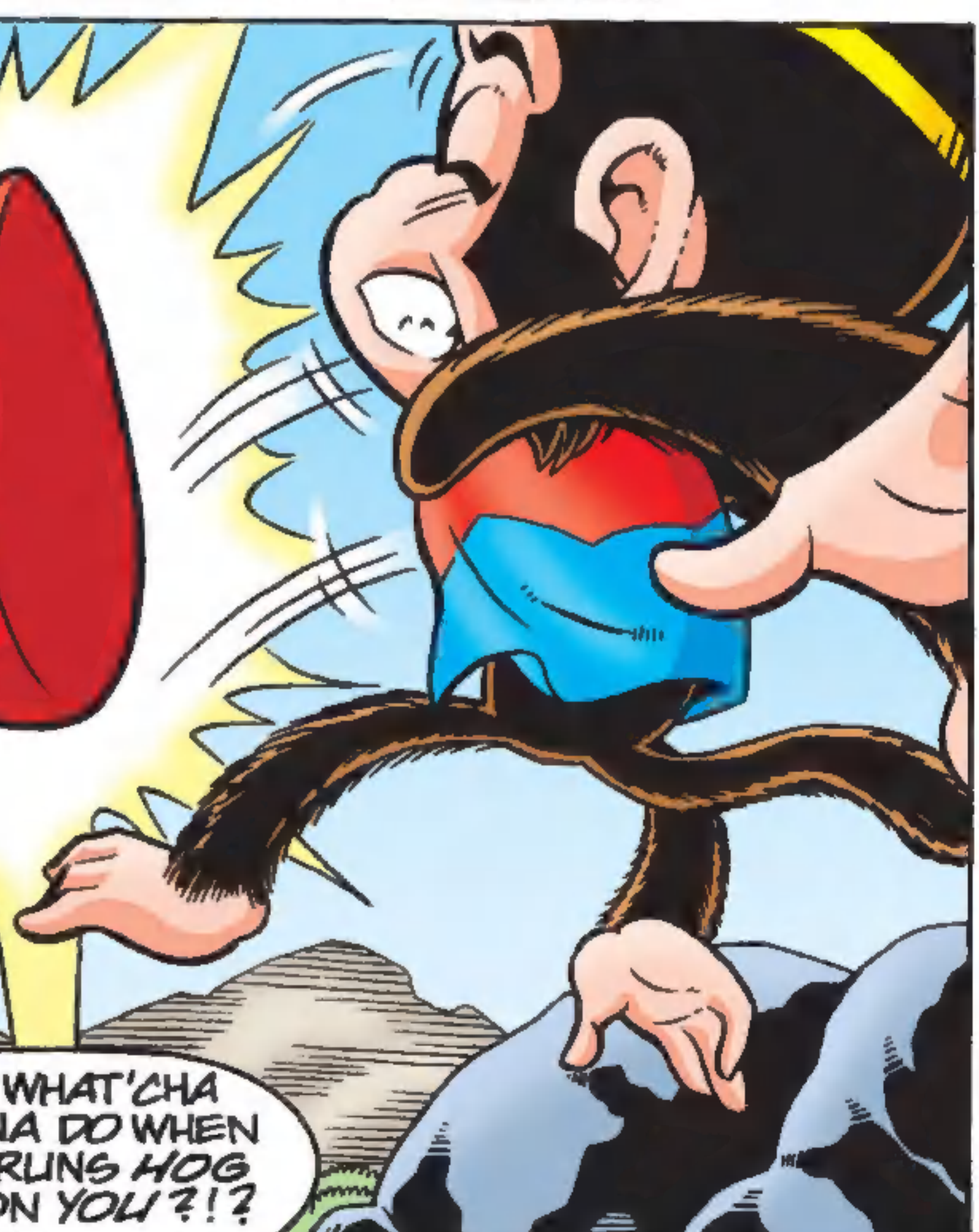


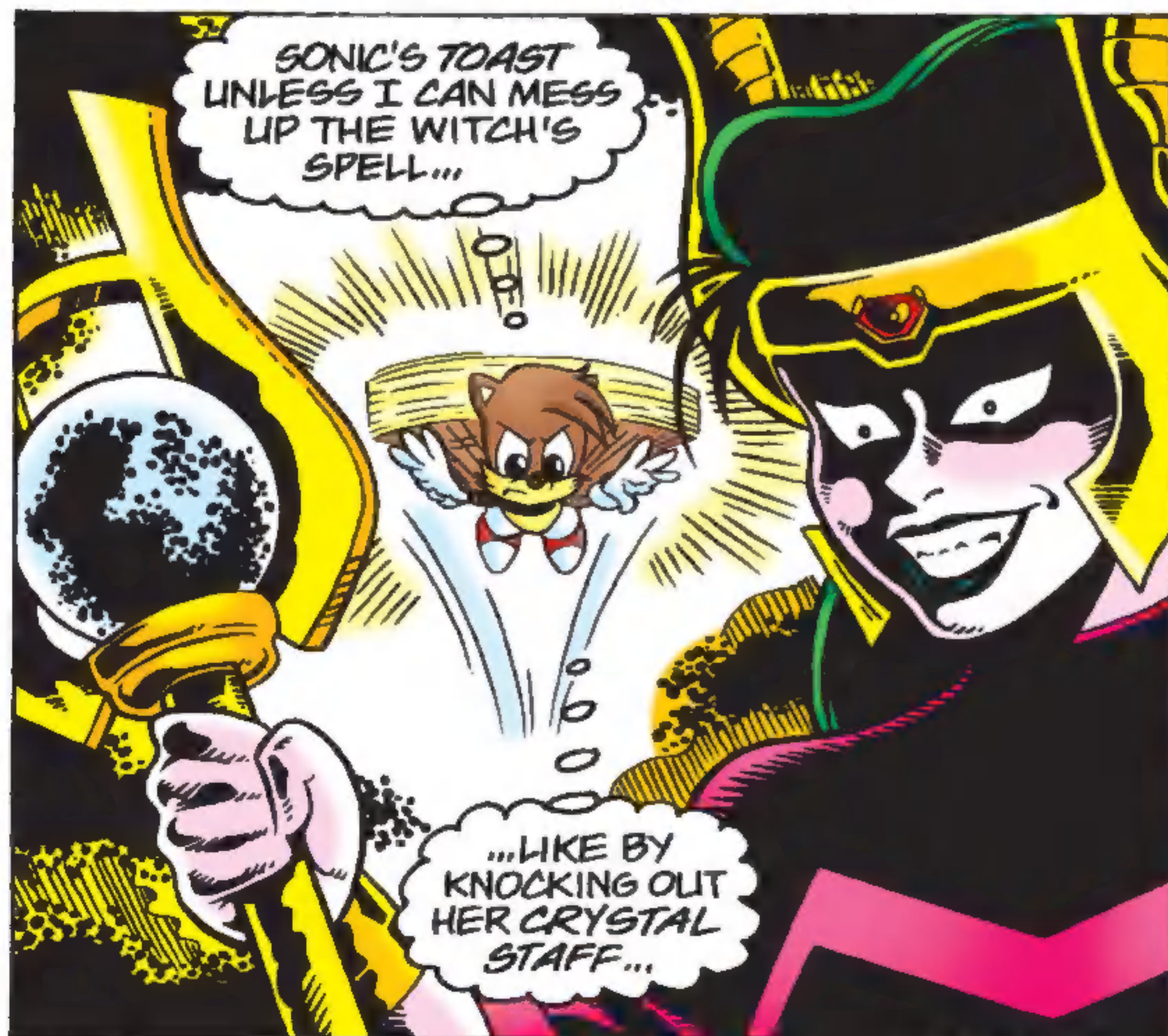
MONKEY KHAN'S BOILING OVER WITH RAGE AND FURY! THAT'S WHAT MAKES HIM SO EASILY MANIPULATED--NOT TO MENTION UNDEFEATABLE IN A NO-HOLDS-BARRED BATTLE ROYAL!!

OH, PUH-LEEZE! TO BE THE MAN YOU GOTTA BEAT THE MAN, QUEENIE! AND YOU BETTER BELIEVE I AM THE MAN!



SO, WHAT'CHA GONNA DO WHEN SONIC RUNS HOG WILD ON YOU?!?





HUH? WHA? WHO?
 HOW? WHERE? SONIC!
 WHAT AM I...?

EASY DOES IT,
 BUD. YOU'VE JUST
 COME TO YOUR
 SENSES... OR
 Y'KNOW, A
 REASONABLE
 FACSIMILE!*

* AN EXACT
 COPY--
 ED-ICIONARY

OOOH!! DARN
 YOUR SOCKS! NOW
 YOU'VE GONE AND
 RUINED MY FUN!
 YOU WIN ROUND
 ONE, HEDGEHOG,
 BUT THE GAME'S
 ONLY GETTING
 STARTED!

YEAH, YEAH!
 DON'T COME CRYIN'
 TO ME AT HALF-
 TIME, TOOTS!

WAY TO SAVE THE DAY, TAILS! SO,
 WHAT'S THE SKINNY? THE CRYSTAL
 STAFF WAS THE SOURCE OF HER
 SO-CALLED "MAGIC?"

I DON'T KNOW IF
 SHE'S REALLY GOT
 MYSTIC POWERS, OR
 NOT BECAUSE WHEN
 I SMASHED HER STAFF
 LOOK WHAT CAME OUT OF IT...

POWER RINGS!
 THE IRON QUEEN
 MUST'VE BUILT
 THEM INTO HER
 STAFF TO
 AMPLIFY HER
 STAFF! WE'RE
 DEALING WITH
 SOME SCARY
 CHARACTERS
 HERE,
 TAILS!

NORMALLY, MONKEY KHAN WOULD RELISH
 SUCH A CHALLENGE...BUT IT MIGHT BE WISE
 TO BACK OUT WHILE WE STILL CAN!

ARE YOU
 KIDDING? I
 CAN'T WAIT TO
 SEE HOW THIS
 MISADVENTURE
 TURNS OUT, MK!

EVENTUALLY...

TRAIN RIDE'S OVER, TROOPS, AND I DO BELIEVE THIS IS OUR STOP...

...THE IRON FORTRESS, IN ALL ITS GLORY! UH, SUCH THAT IT IS.

S-S-SUCH THAT IT IS!

DON'T HAVE A COW, KID! THE OLD SINISTER ARCHITECTURE TRICK IS AN OBVIOUS PLOY!

SONIC'S RIGHT, IT'S MERELY A STRATEGY DESIGNED TO FUEL OUR FEARS AND THROW US OFF GUARD! WE'RE FAR TOO SMART TO FALL FOR THAT!

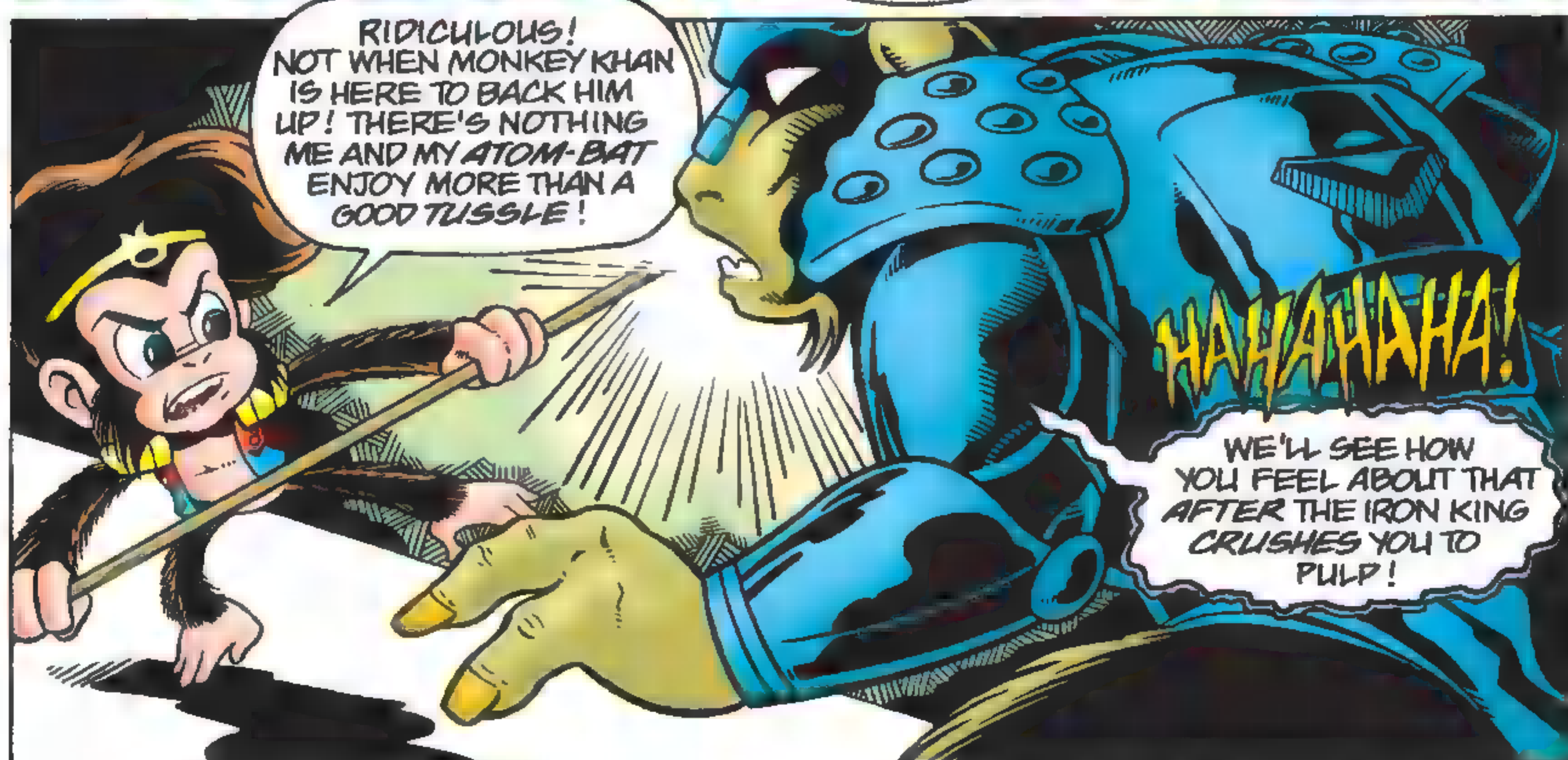
SHUDDER! Y-Y-YOU DON'T THINK THEY KNOW WE'RE COMING, DO YOU?

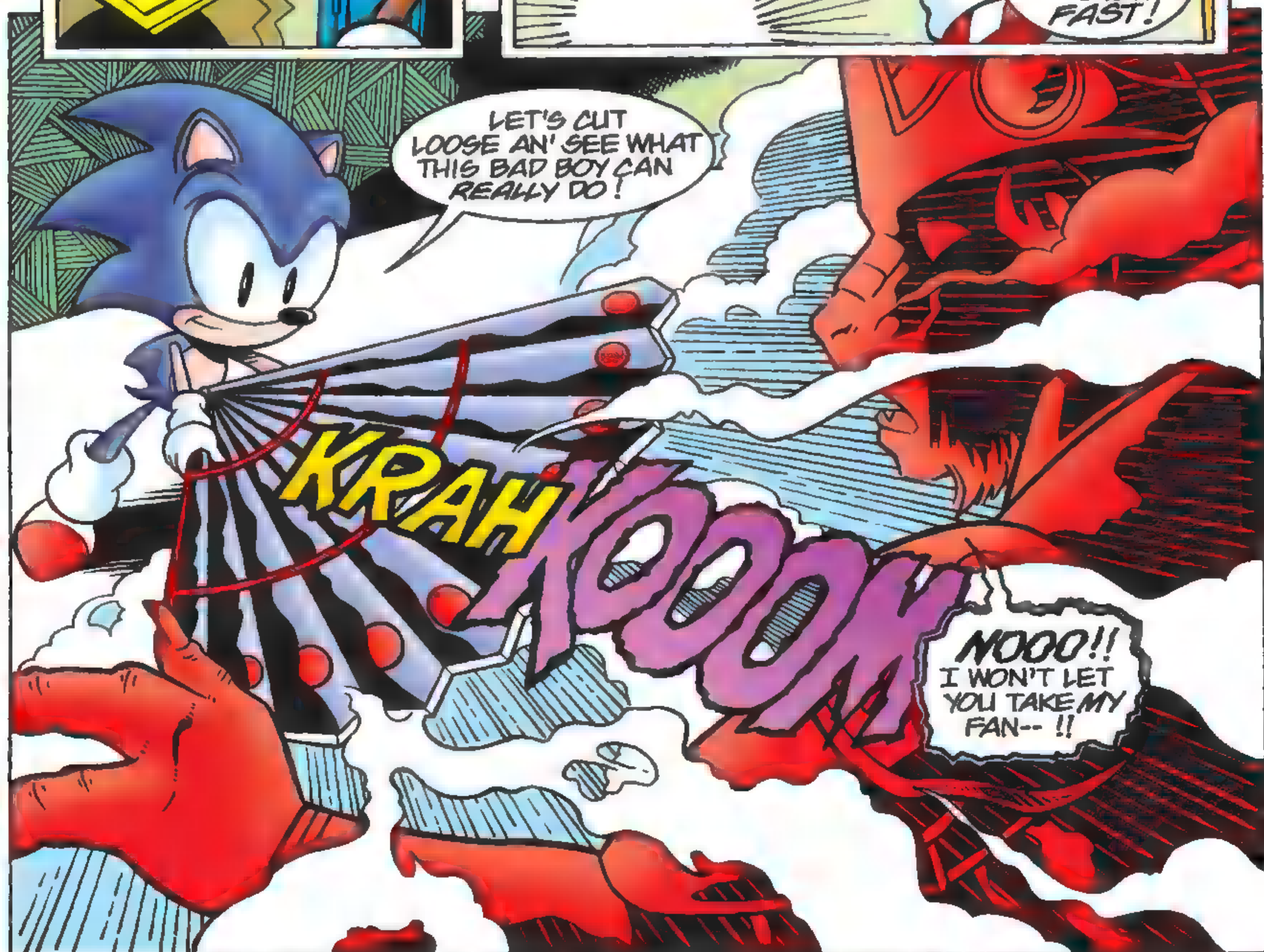
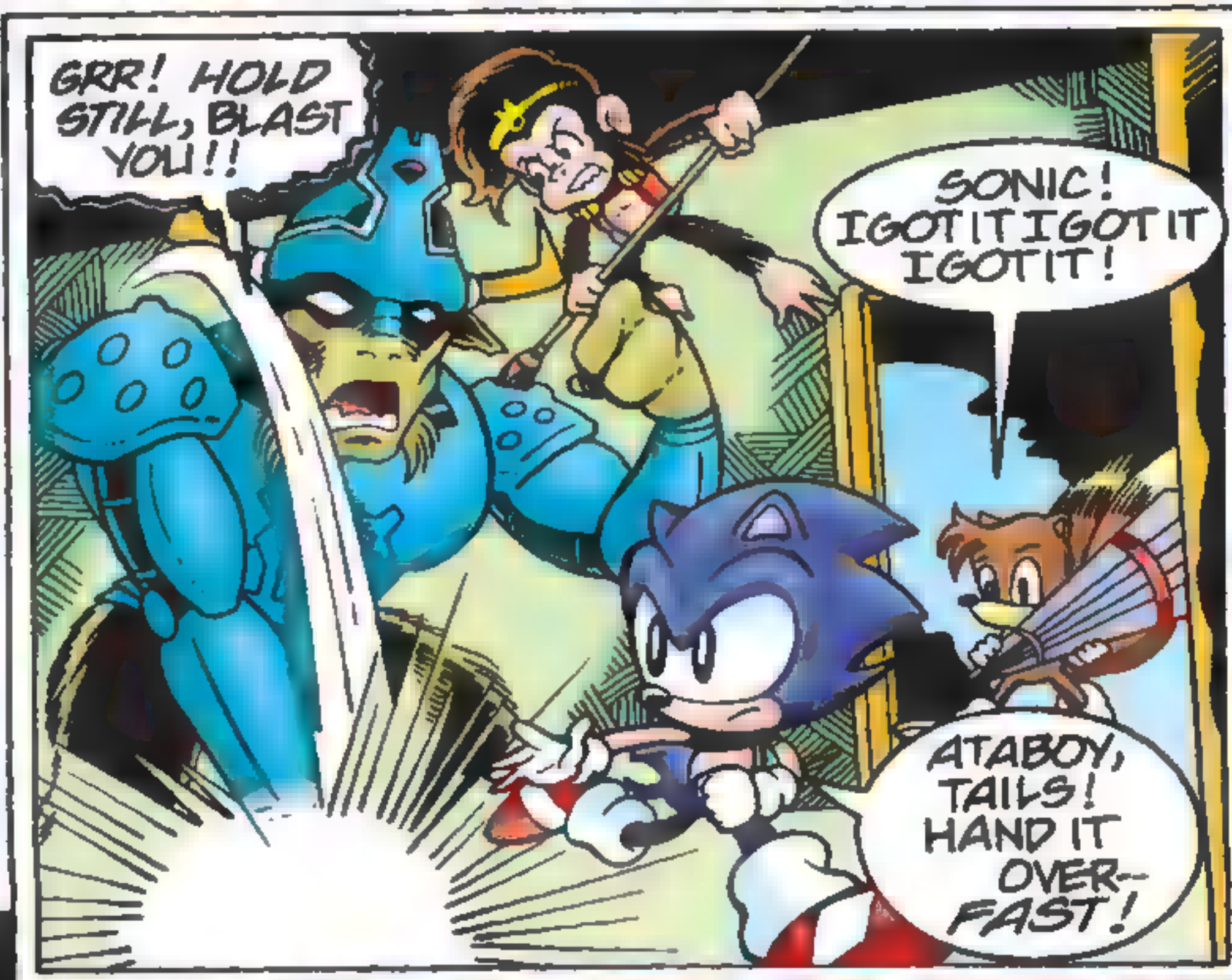
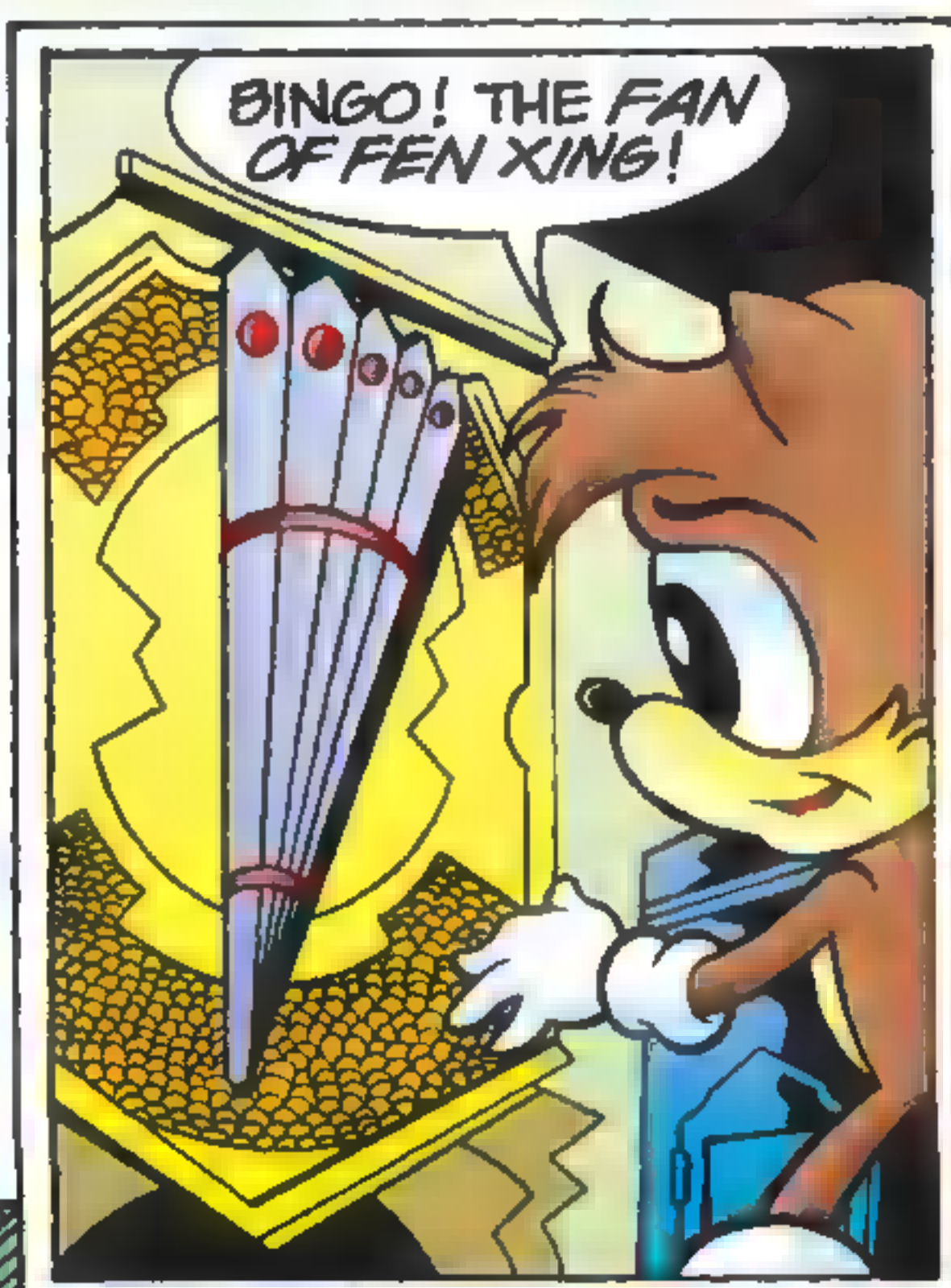
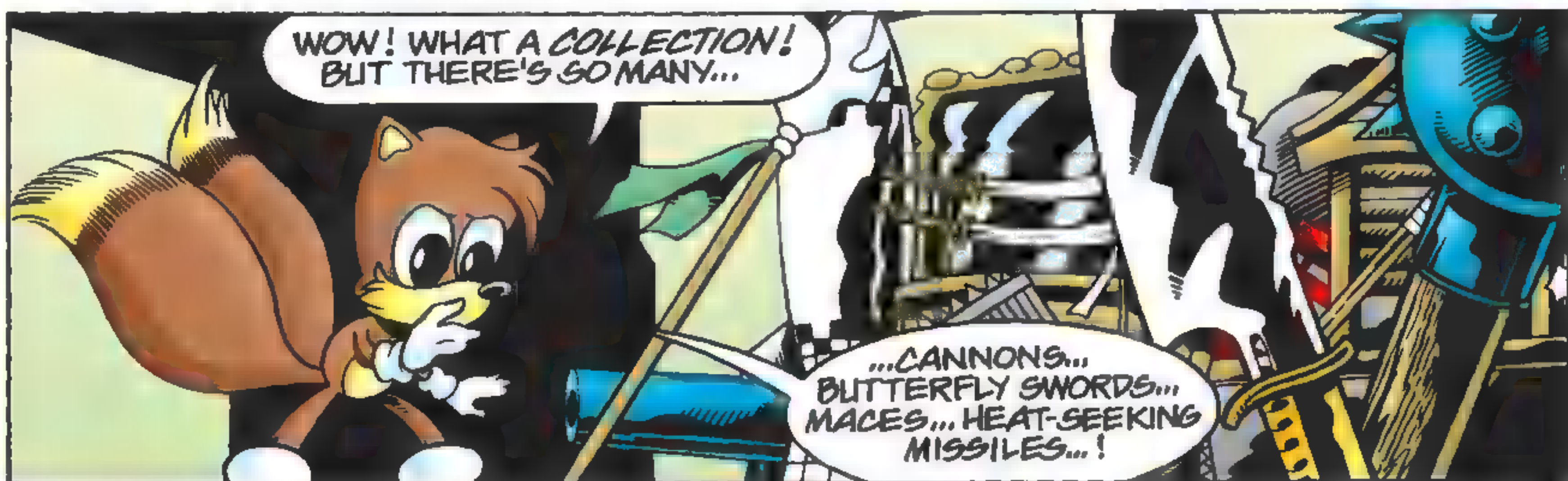
HECK, NO! THEY ALWAYS LEAVE THE DOORS OPEN FOR WEARY TRAVELERS!

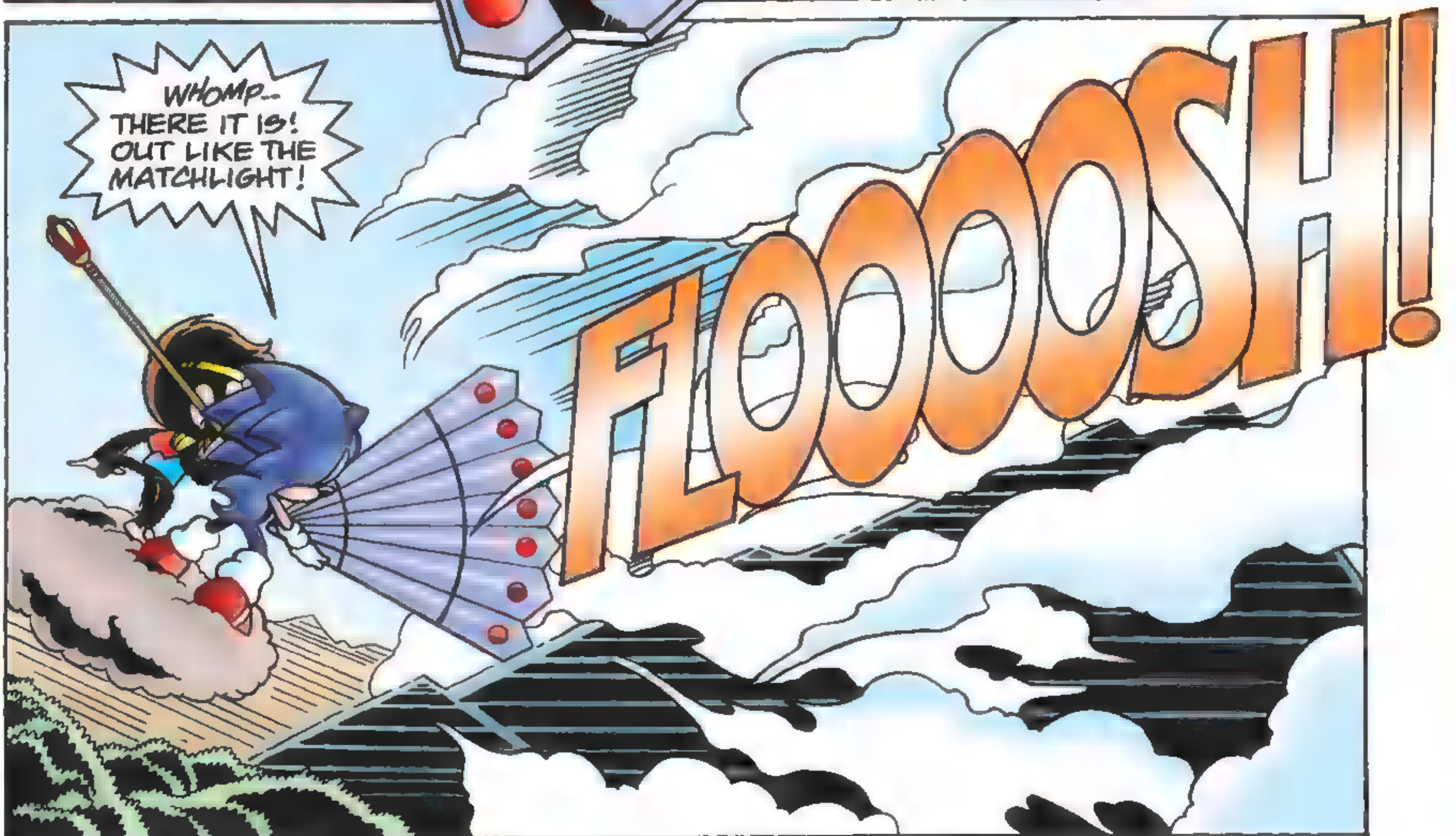
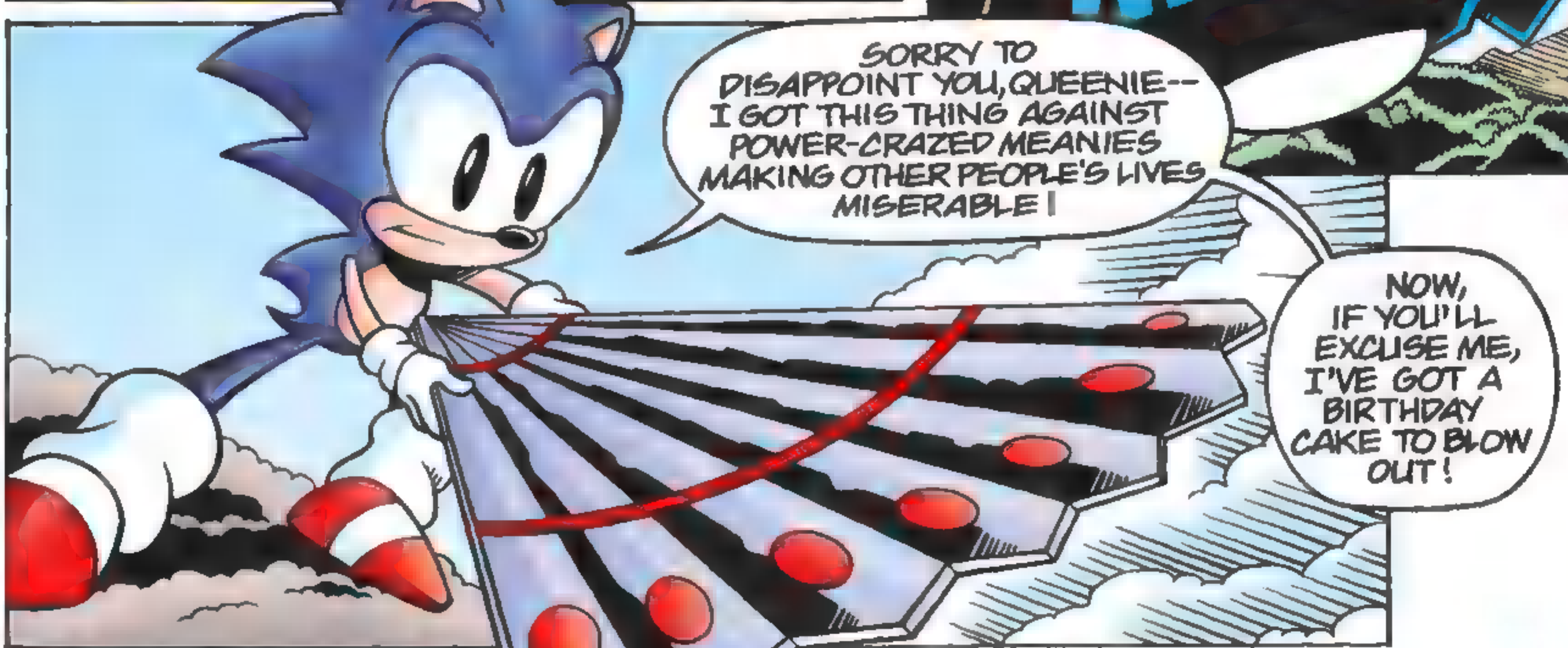
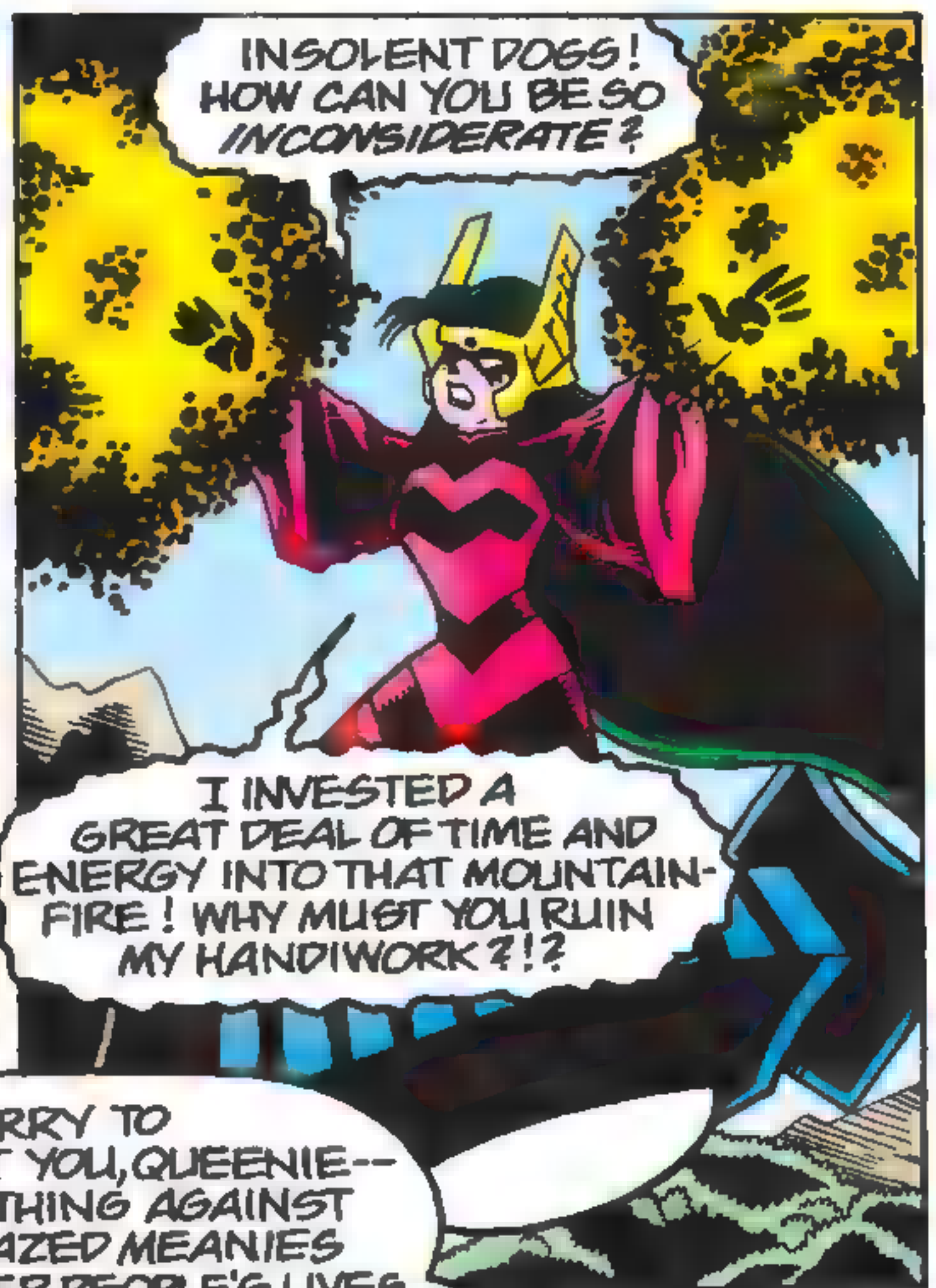
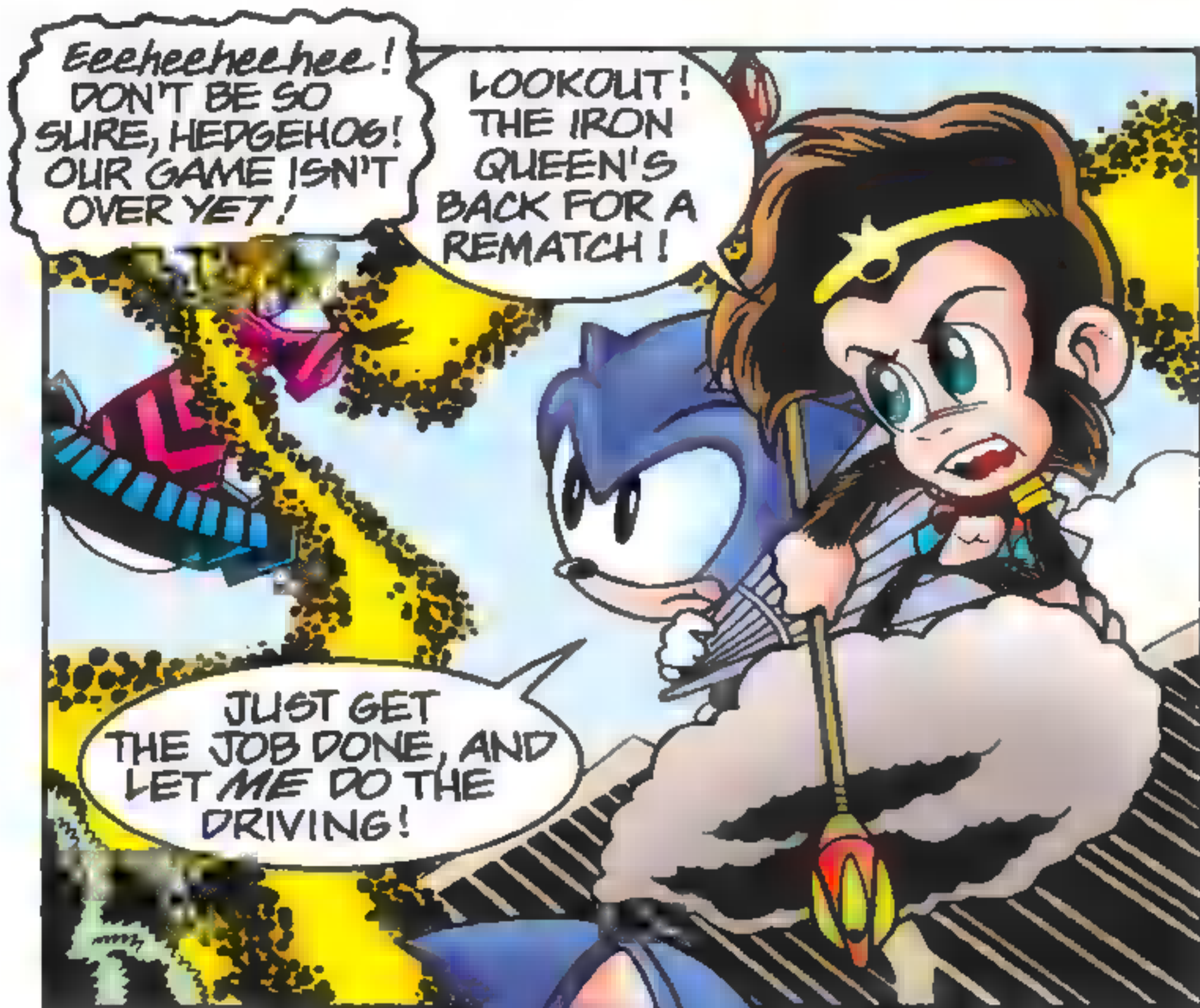
I'VE GOT A BAD FEELING WE'RE WALKING INTO A TRAP!

NO DUH! POINTLESS TRYING TO SECOND GUESS THEM, SO LET'S JUST FIND THE ARSENAL AND GET IT OVER WITH!

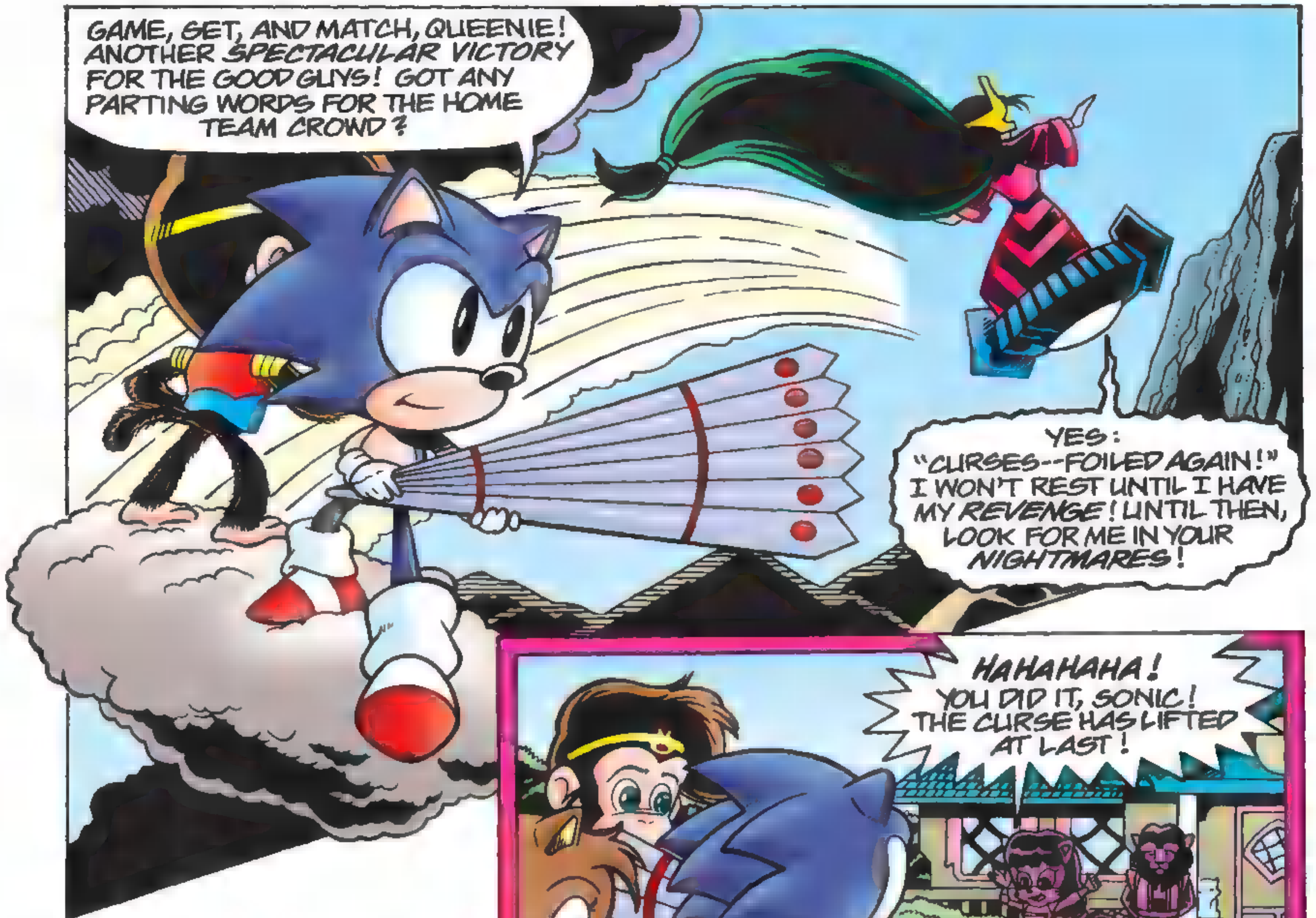
IN A CASTLE THIS SIZE, IT MIGHT TAKE HOURS. THE IRON KING PROBABLY KEEPS IT WELL HIDDEN!







GAME, SET, AND MATCH, QUEENIE!
ANOTHER SPECTACULAR VICTORY
FOR THE GOOD GUYS! GOT ANY
PARTING WORDS FOR THE HOME
TEAM CROWD?



YES:
"CURSES--FOILED AGAIN!"
I WON'T REST UNTIL I HAVE
MY REVENGE! UNTIL THEN,
LOOK FOR ME IN YOUR
NIGHTMARES!



HAHAHAHA!
YOU DID IT, SONIC!
THE CURSE HAS LIFTED
AT LAST!

WELL SHUCKS, LI MOON!
T'WEREN'T NOTHIN' ANY OTHER
HERO WOULDN'T HAVE DONE!

HEY, DON'T
FORGET--WE
COULDN'T
HAVE DONE
IT WITHOUT
THE
MONKEY
KHAN'S
HELP.

I'M NOT AT ALL
SURPRISED. THE
ANCIENT
PROPHECIES
FORETOLD THE
ASCENSION OF
A GREAT MONKEY
KING!



MONKEY...
KING?!?

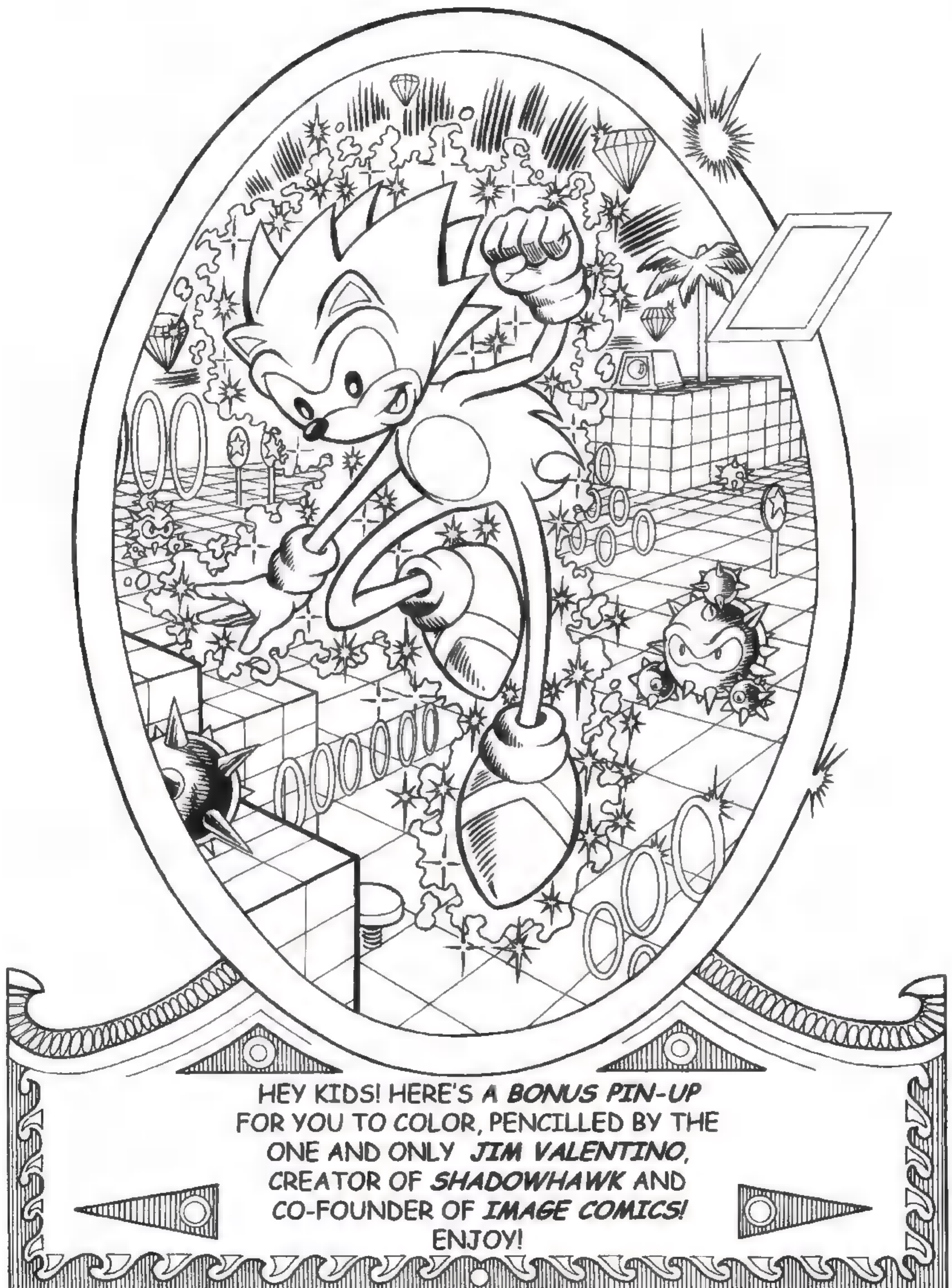
PFFT! GO FIGURE!
THE HEDGEHOG DOES
ALL THE WORK, BUT
THE MONKEY GETS HIS
OWN PROPHECY!

MAN, I HAVE GOT
TO GET A NEW
PUBLICIST!



End

SUPER SONIC



HEY KIDS! HERE'S A *BONUS PIN-UP*
FOR YOU TO COLOR, PENCILLED BY THE
ONE AND ONLY *JIM VALENTINO*,
CREATOR OF *SHADOWHAWK* AND
CO-FOUNDER OF *IMAGE COMICS*!
ENJOY!

VALENTINO/PENDERS after SHUSTER

PRINCESS
Sally IN

THE ULTIMATUM

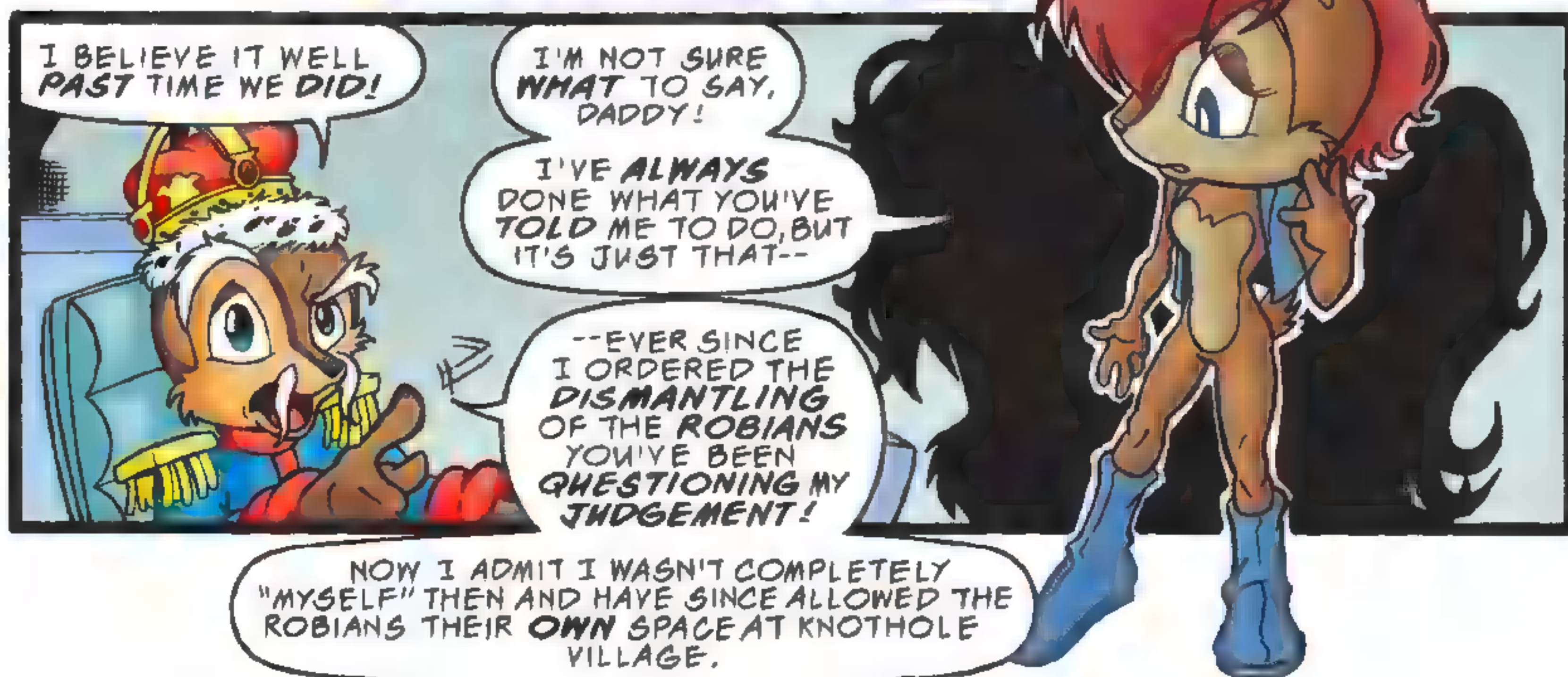


I WAS TOLD
YOU WANTED TO
SEE ME,
DADDY!

YES! YES!
COME IN,
SALLY!

WE HAVEN'T
REALLY **SPOKEN**
MUCH LATELY--AND
NOW THAT I'VE
COLLECTED MY
THOUGHTS--

WRITER/COLORIST: KEN PENDERS
PENCILS: MANNY GALAN
INKS: JIM AMASH
EDITOR: J. FREDDY GABRIE



I BELIEVE IT WELL
PAST TIME WE DID!

I'M NOT SURE
WHAT TO SAY,
DADDY!

I'VE **ALWAYS**
DONE WHAT YOU'VE
TOLD ME TO DO, BUT
IT'S JUST THAT--

--EVER SINCE
I ORDERED THE
DISMANTLING
OF THE ROBBIANS
YOU'VE BEEN
QUESTIONING MY
JUDGEMENT!

NOW I ADMIT I WASN'T COMPLETELY
"MYSELF" THEN AND HAVE SINCE ALLOWED THE
ROBBIANS THEIR **OWN SPACE** AT KNOTHOLE
VILLAGE.



THEY'RE **NOT** "ROBIANS", DADDY! THEY'RE **MOBIANS**!

MORE THAN A FEW OF OUR PEOPLE WOULD **DISAGREE** WITH YOU, MY DEAR--

--BUT THAT'S NOT **WHY** I SUMMONED YOU **HERE**!



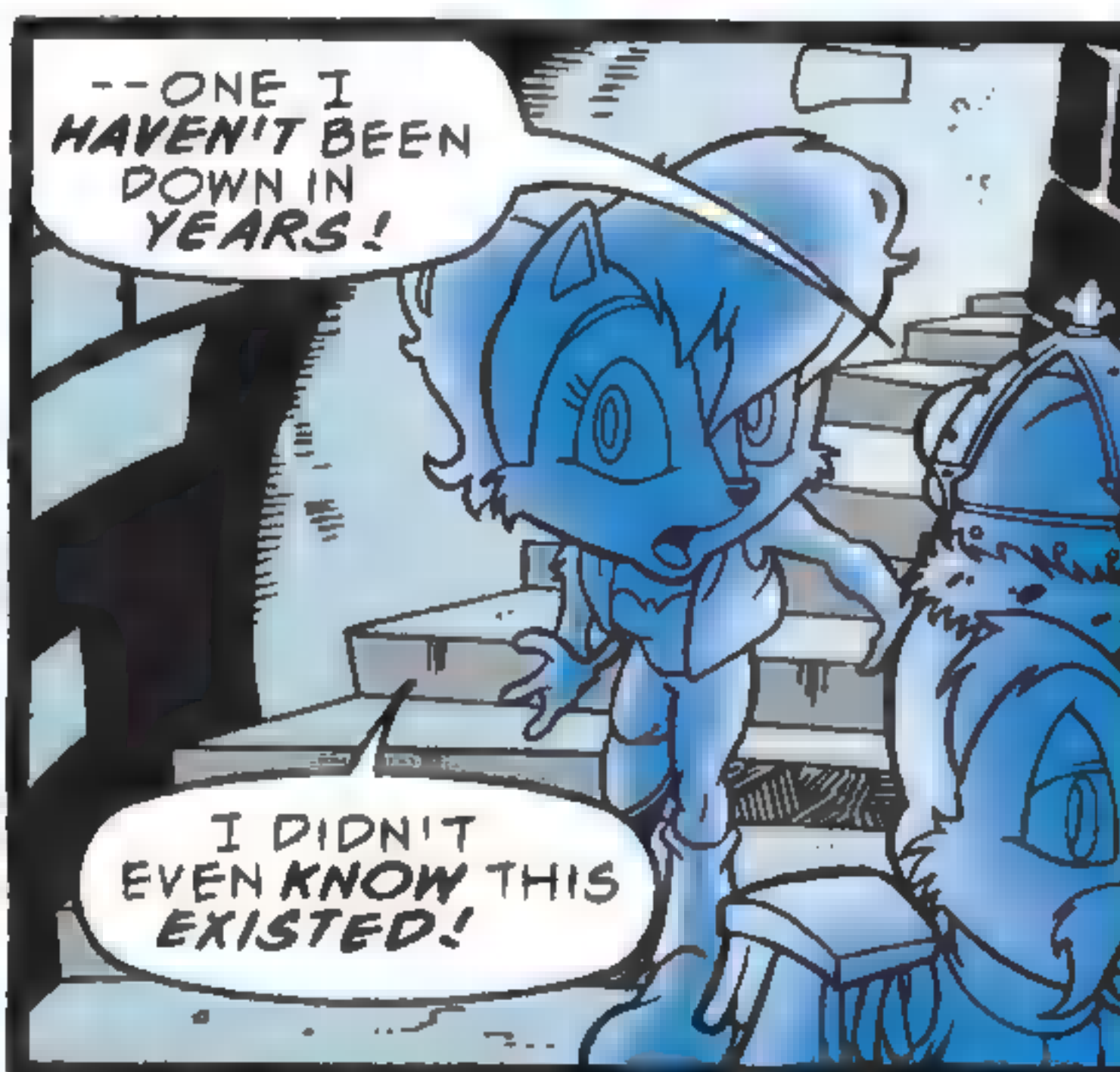
IN FACT, I **UNDERSTAND** YOUR ATTITUDE **MORE** THAN YOU WOULD THINK ...

COME WITH ME! I'VE **SOMETHING** TO SHOW YOU!

IN THE **CLOSET**??!

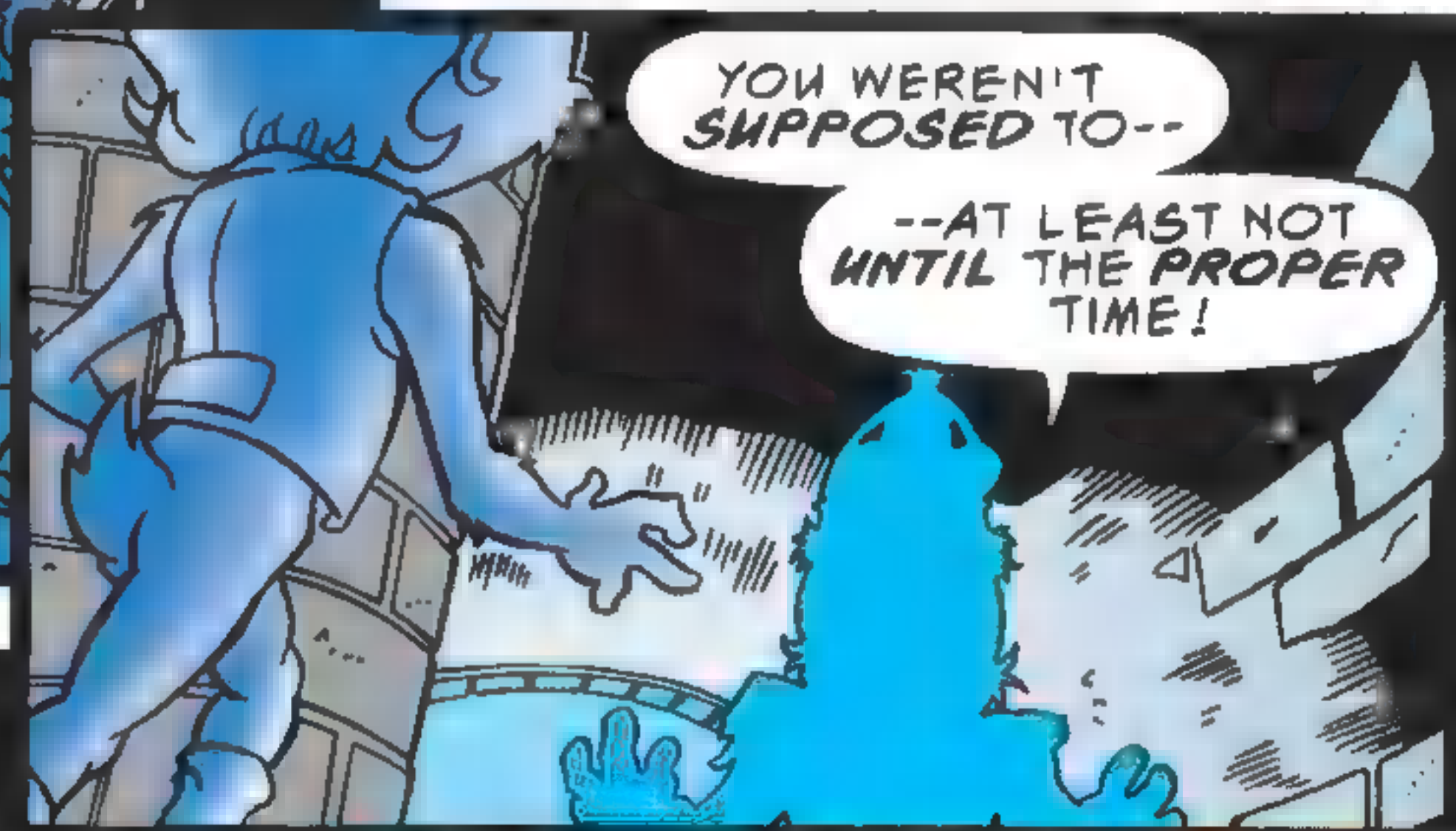


NO--THROUGH THIS **SECRET** PASSAGEWAY!



--ONE I **HAVEN'T** BEEN DOWN IN YEARS!

I **DIDN'T** EVEN **KNOW** THIS **EXISTED**!



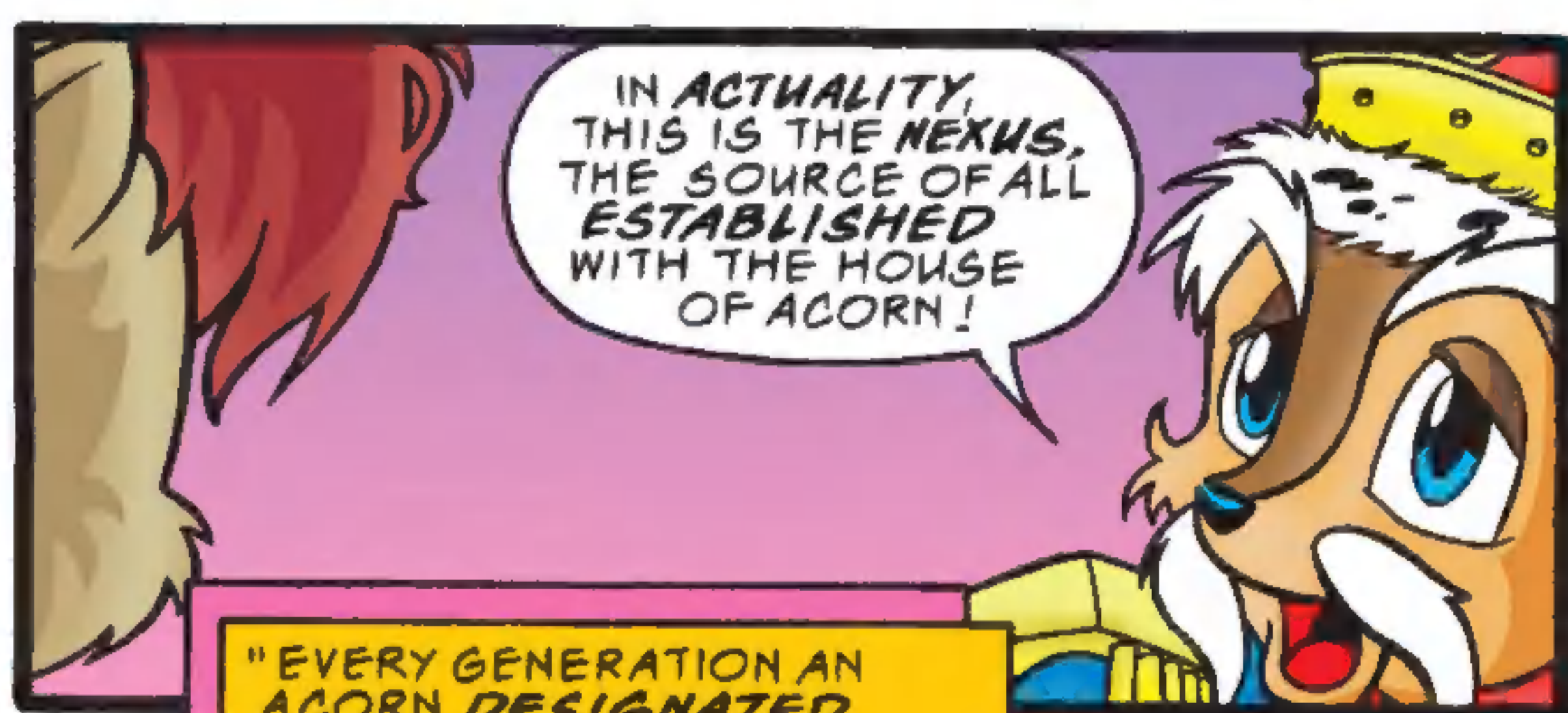
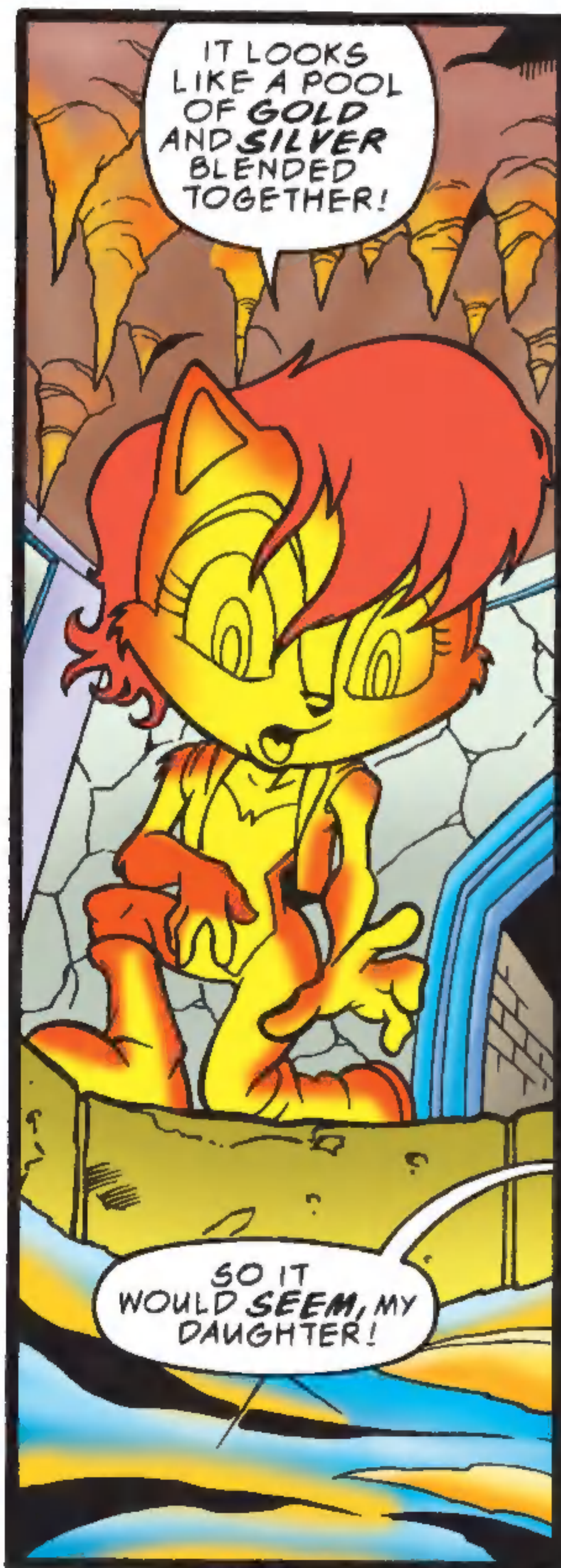
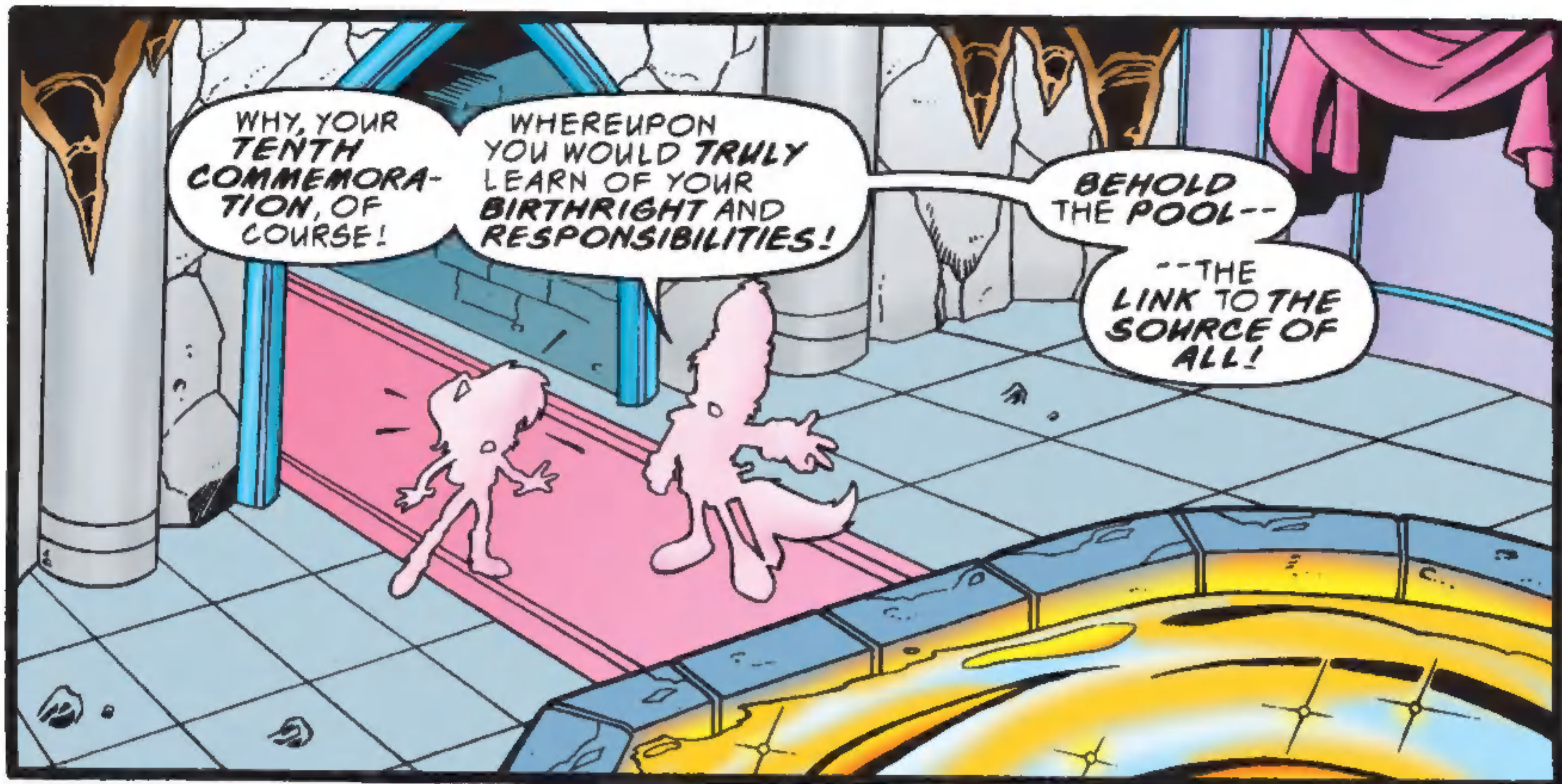
YOU **WEREN'T** SUPPOSED TO--

--AT LEAST NOT UNTIL THE **PROPER** TIME!



TIME?

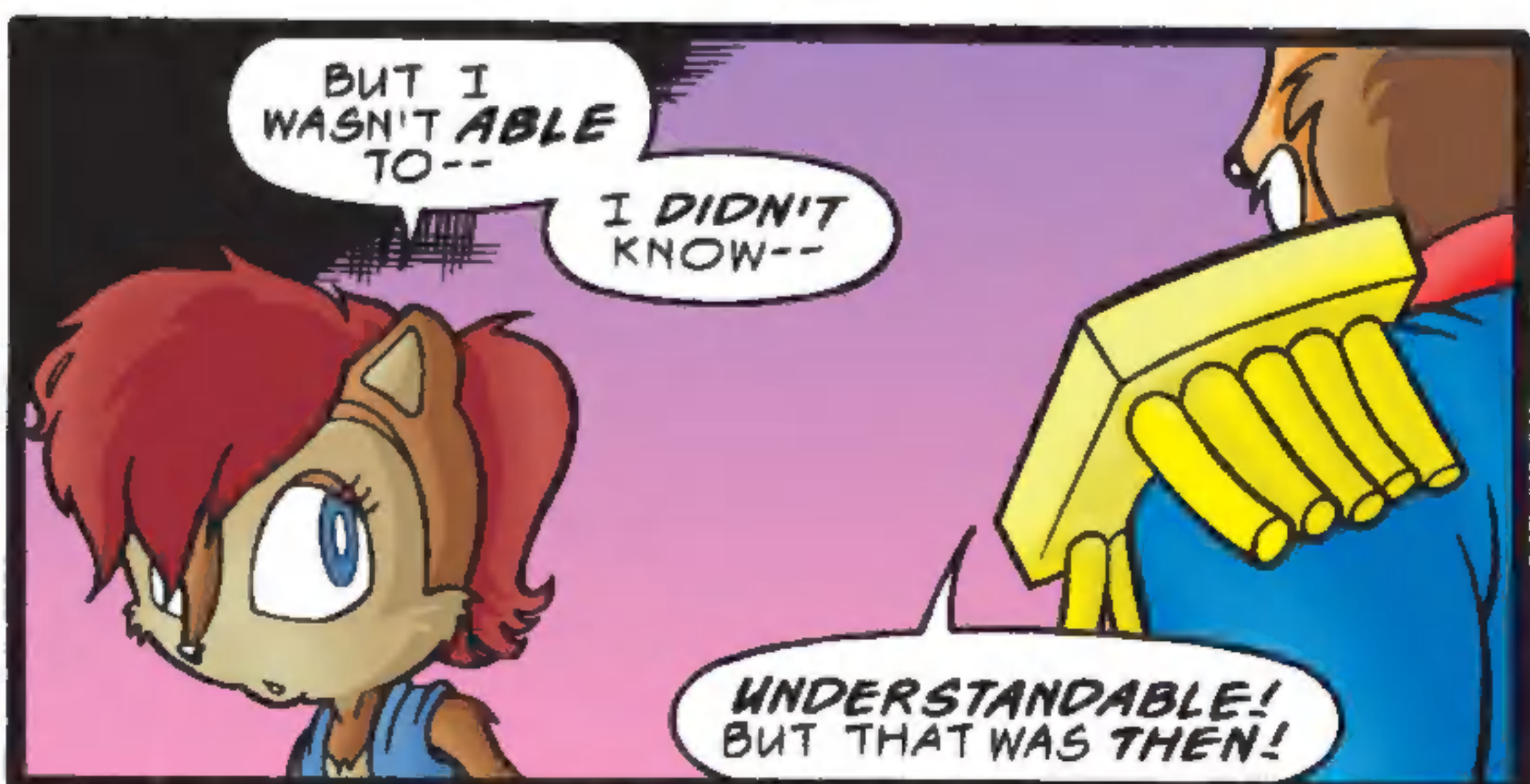
TIME FOR **WHAT**, DADDY?

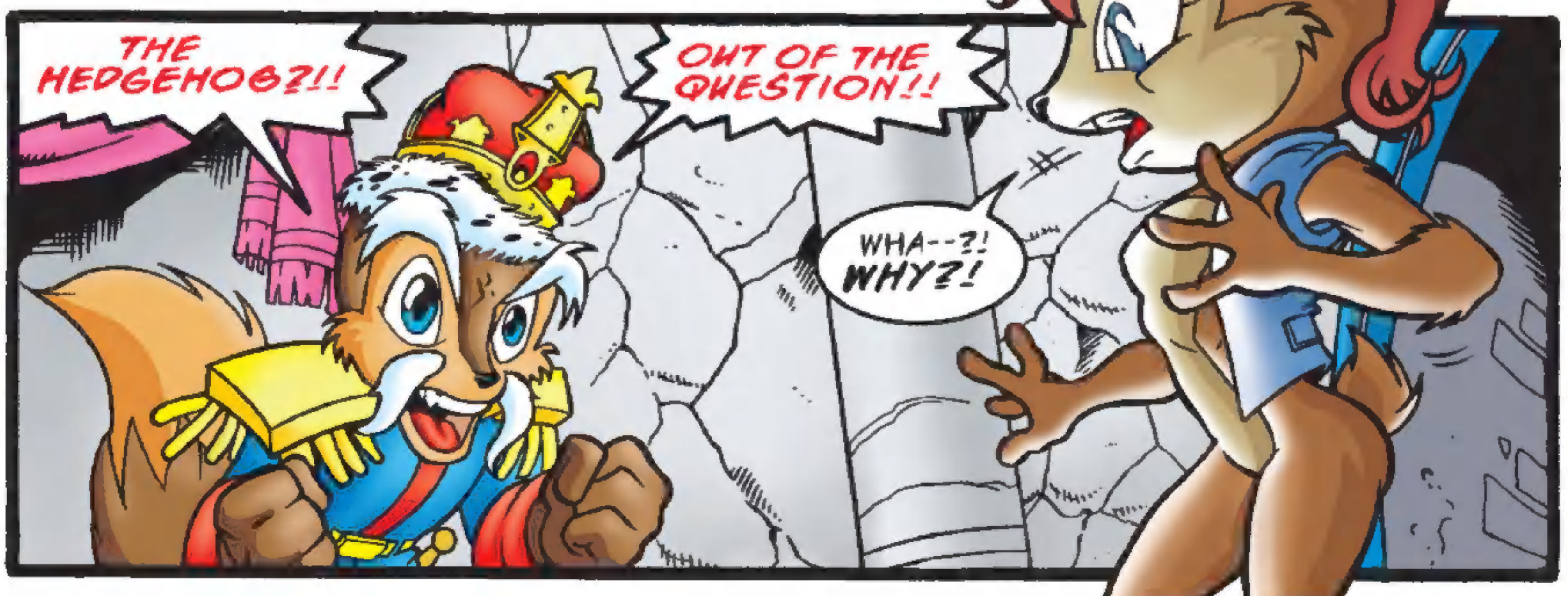
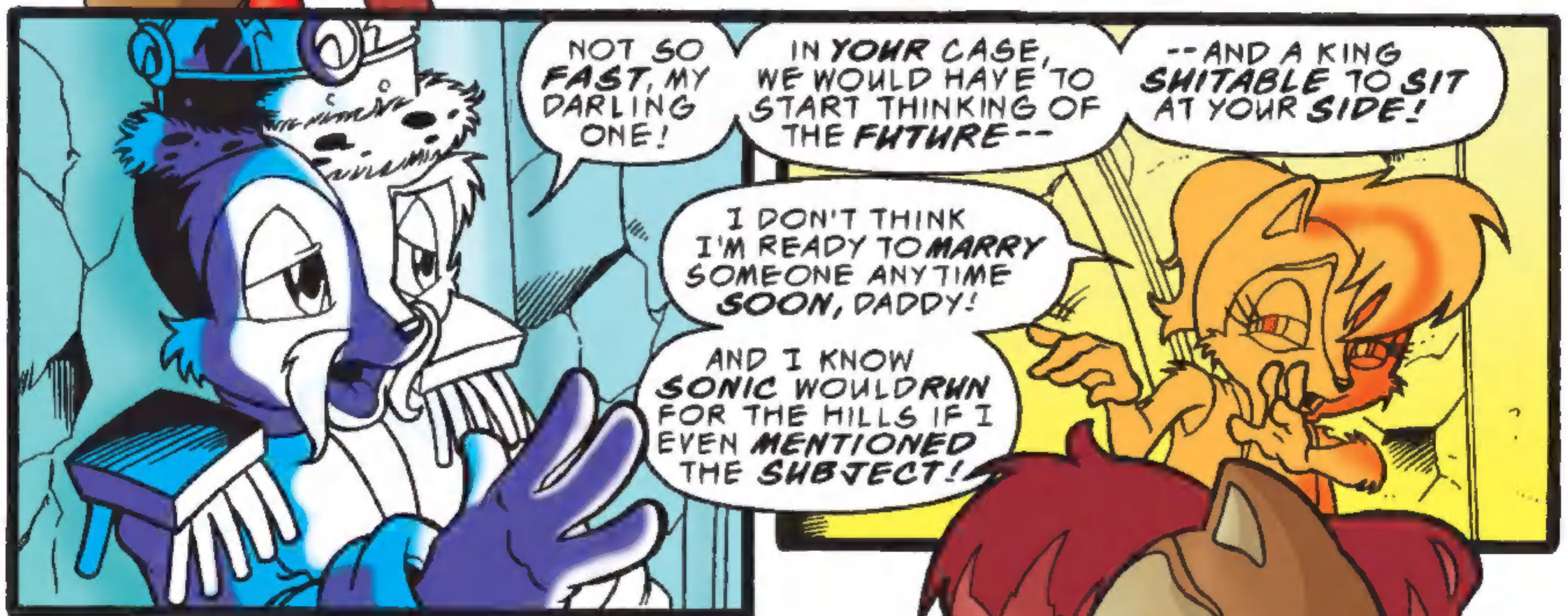
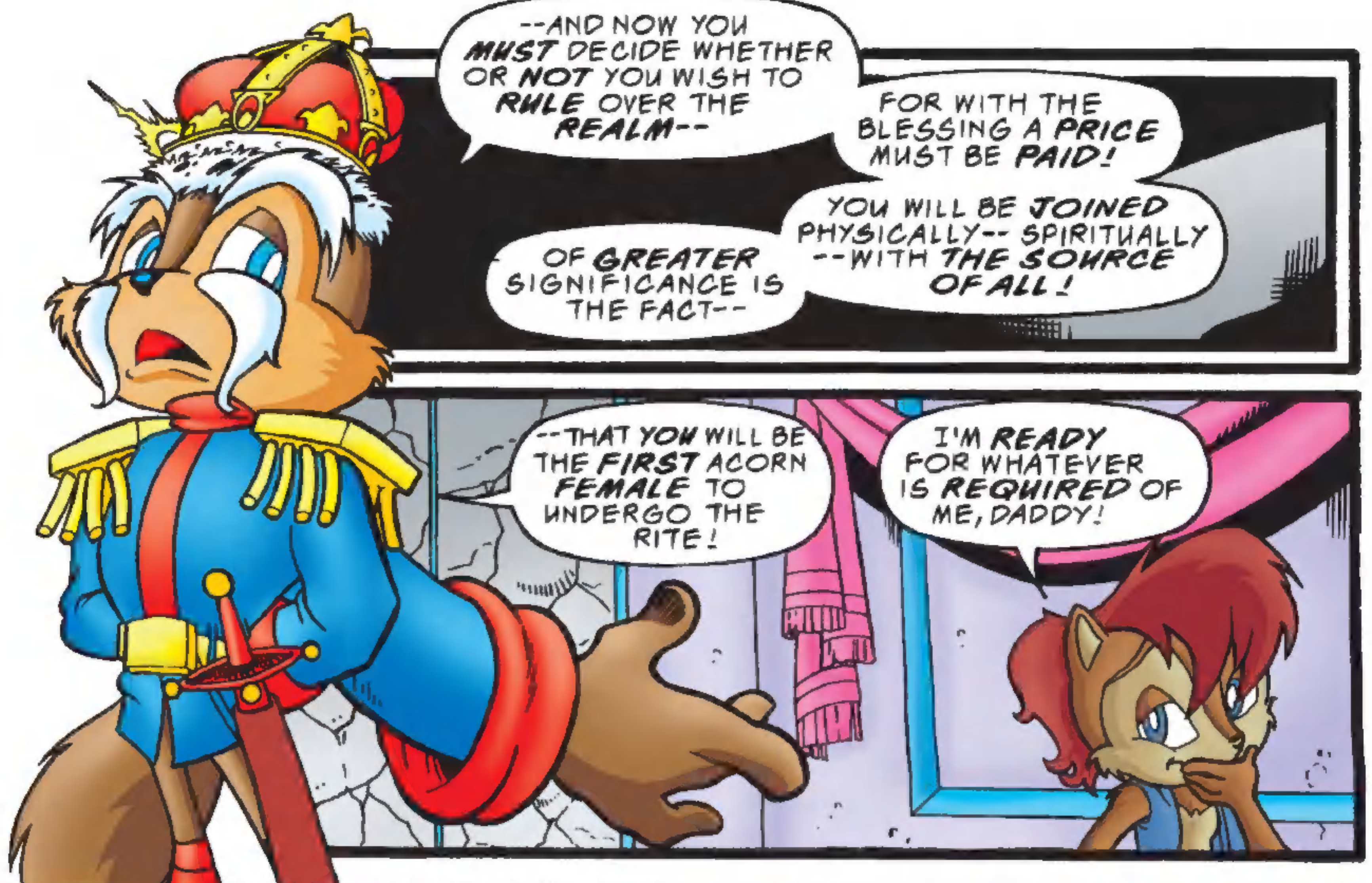


"EVERY GENERATION AN **ACORN DESIGNATED** TO **ASCEND THE THRONE** **BINDS WITH THE SOURCE**!"

"THE PROCESS **USUALLY** BEGINS WITH THE **TENTH** **COMMEMORATION**!"*

* AS SHOWN IN "THE **LIVING CROWN**" IN **SONIC ARCHIVES VOL. 15** --EDITOR





"A MONARCH DOESN'T
CHOOSE HIS MATE,
THE SOURCE DOES!"

"MY OWN FATHER WAS
GUIDED WHEN SELECTING
YOUR MOTHER FOR ME!"



"WE WERE BETROTHED
WHEN WE WERE BUT
ELEVEN YEARS OF AGE!"



"UPON OUR EIGHTEENTH
COMMEMORATION WE
WERE MARRIED!"

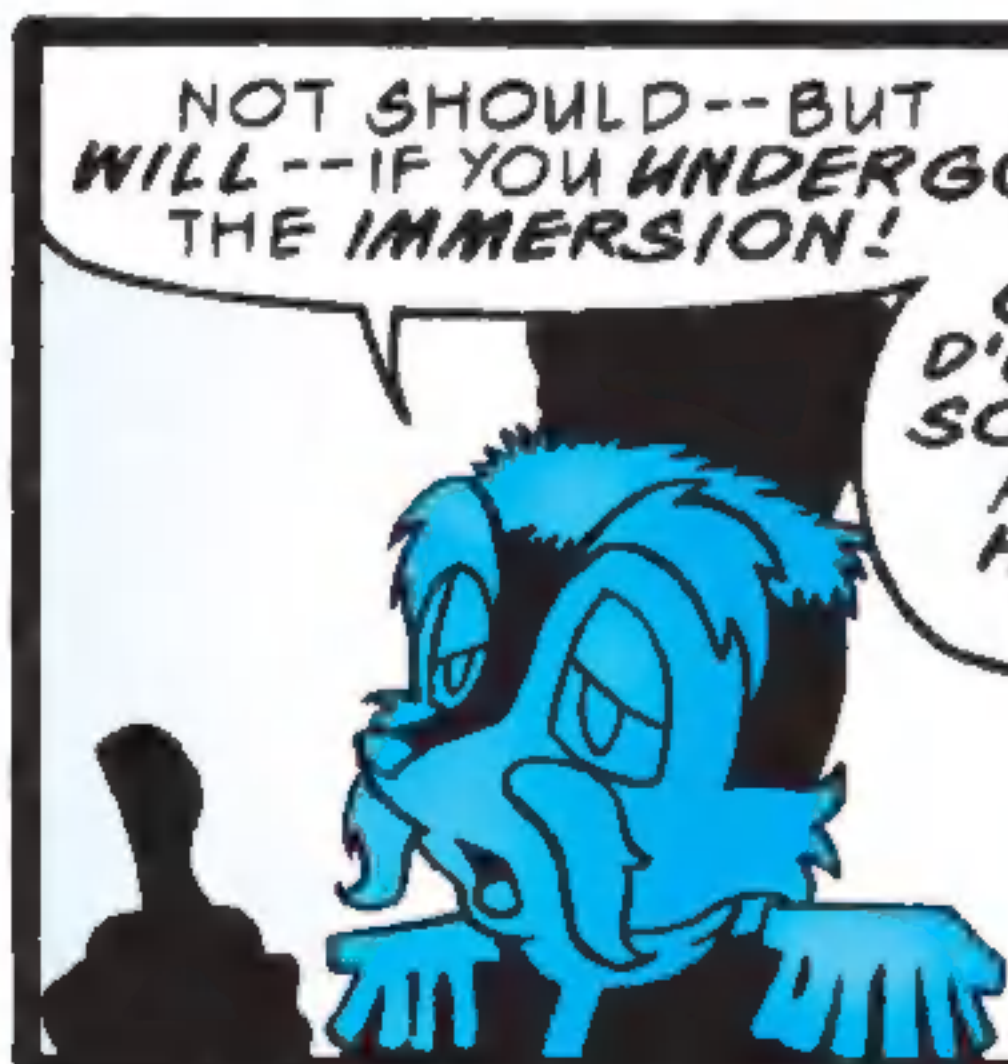
SO ARE YOU
SAYING THIS--
THIS SOURCE
OF ALL-- HAS
ADVISED YOU
ON WHO I
SHOULD
MARRY?



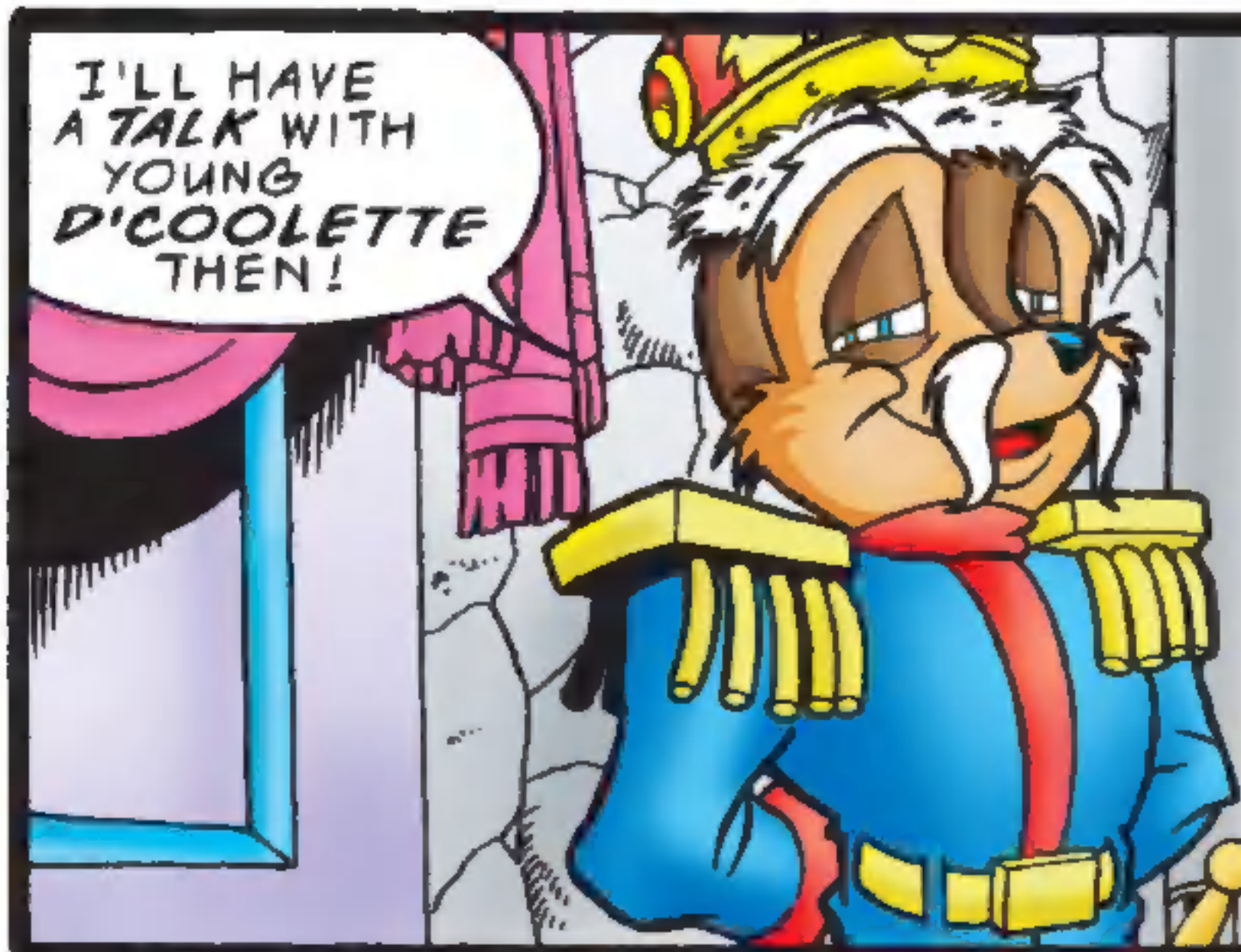
NOT SHOULD--BUT
WILL--IF YOU UNDERGO
THE IMMERSION!

GENERAL
D'COOLETTE'S
SON WILL MAKE
A FINE
HUSBAND
FOR YOU!

ANTOINE?



I'LL HAVE
A TALK WITH
YOUNG
D'COOLETTE
THEN!



YOU'LL DO
NO SUCH THING,
DADDY!

